

Hafa Adai!

Palau moves away from imported oil. **PAGE 5**
Kilili announces 2018 App Challenge. **PAGE 7**

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVIII, Issue No. 146

www.saipantribune.com

WEDNESDAY JULY 25, 2018

www.facebook.com/saipantribune

75¢

CW law expected today

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. President Donald J. Trump is expected to sign the CW bill today, *Saipan Tribune* learned yesterday.

In a statement from press secretary Kevin Bautista, he confirmed that the Torres administration has been expecting the enactment of the NMI U.S. Workforce Act of 2018, or Rep. Rob Bishop's (R-UT) H.R. 5956, since early Tuesday morning.

See CW on **Page 4**

DOJ: NEPA review covered all impacts

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Every environmental impact that the Tinian Women Association and three other environmental groups are alleging in their lawsuit is now subject to National Environmental Policy Act review, according to the U.S. Department of Justice.

Taylor N. Ferrell, trial attorney of the DOJ Environmental and Natural Resources Divi-

See DOJ on **Page 4**



PLAYTIME

Some of the children that completed the Healthy Outcomes for Maternal and Early Childhood Visiting Program enjoy an activity before the start of last Friday's graduation at the Pacific Island Club Saipan's Charley's Cabaret.

JON PEREZ

Probable cause found vs twins in hit-and-run

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A Superior Court judge has found probable cause to charge twin brothers involved in a car that mowed down a female tourist as she was walking with a friend on the shoulder of Beach Road.



Camacho

In an order on Monday, Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho found probable cause to charge Vincent Laatman Muña, 22, with the crimes of attempted robbery (dangerous weapon or bodily injury) and

conspiracy to commit robbery (dangerous weapon or bodily injury).

Camacho also found probable cause to charge Anthony Laatman Muña, 22, with attempted robbery (dangerous weapon or bodily injury), conspiracy to commit robbery (dangerous weapon or bodily injury), reckless driving (bodily injury),

See TWINS on **Page 4**

US govt: Guanlao will not suffer harm

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. government argues that Amalia Abo Guanlao will not suffer irreparable injury without a stay of an order for the dismissal of her lawsuit pending her appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Adrienne Zack, a lawyer for the

U.S. Department of Justice Civil Division, pointed out that Guanlao won't be separated from her family; Guanlao herself states that her family would return with her to the Philippines.

In the U.S. government's opposition to motion to stay pending appeal, Zack said Guanlao also does

See GUANLAO on **Page 4**

INSIDE



NATION

Police have arrested the suspect in an Oakland train station stabbing.

PAGE 16



ASIA

A leadership row in Congress delays President Rodrigo Duterte's state of the nation address.

PAGE 17



LIFE & STYLE

The San Diego Comic-Con 2018 ended Sunday after four days and attracting some 130,000 souls.

PAGE 20



SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.



GOT A NEWS TIP?

TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

THE BEST GAMING CLUB IN SAIPAN
IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE

Fabulous
SAIPAN VEGAS
JULY
MEGA DRAW
PLAYER PROMOTION!

WITH \$5,000
MIDNIGHT MEGA CASH DRAWS
ON 14TH AND 28TH OF JULY!
AND OVER \$18,000 IN FREE PLAY VOUCHER AND HOTEL STAY
PRIZES IN DAILY PLAYER DRAWS TO BE WON BY LUCKY PLAYERS!

COME PLAY TODAY, YOU COULD BE THE NEXT BIG WINNER!

★ Location: Middle Road (next to McDonald's) • 24 hours a day • 7 days a week ★

Local

OAG motion to reconsider dismissal of 1 of two charges in sex abuse case denied

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho turned down yesterday the Office of the Attorney General appeal for him to reconsider his dismissal of one of two charges filed against a 35-year-old man accused of sexually abusing a 15-year-old girl.

"Although reconsideration may be granted in cases involving clear error of law, reconsideration is not a vehicle for parties to repeatedly attempt to re-argue an issue that they failed to address or addressed incompletely, simply because they disagree with the ruling," said Camacho in his order in the case against Jeffery Manarang Fernandez.

Camacho said the motion to reconsider was much longer than the original opposition, and was filed by a different lawyer.

In essence, the judge pointed out, the government is using reconsideration as an attempt to re-argue the exact same issue with the exact same case law with a different attorney.

Camacho said the government's argument for why the court's May 23, 2018, order

was erroneous were all arguments that either the Commonwealth failed to address in the earlier motion to dismiss, or that the government had already unsuccessfully argued.

Camacho noted that the Commonwealth's briefs and arguments on this issue were significantly more on point and more complete than they were in response to the initial motion to dismiss.

"[However], a motion to reconsider is not meant to give parties a second bite at the apple, nor is it meant to replace the appellate process," the judge said, citing precedent.

In his May 23 order, Camacho determined that the OAG has overcharged Fernandez.

Camacho said all of the elements of sexual assault in the first degree—that Fernandez engaged in sexual penetration with the alleged victim without her consent—are all present in sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree, with the lack of consent in sexual assault matching up with the age requirement in sexual abuse of a minor.

"Thus, charging both sexual

assault in the first degree and sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree would expose the defendant to multiple punishments for the same offense," said Camacho in an order that granted Fernandez's motion to dismiss the charge of sexual assault in the first degree.

The judge noted that the alleged offenses both arise out of the same alleged act or transaction.

He said allowing multiplicitous charges gives the impression that Fernandez allegedly committed multiple offenses or that the defendant allegedly committed the same offense more than once.

"Without more information, the court declines to deviate from its previous approach of dismissing multiplicitous counts," Camacho said.

Assistant public defender Heather M. Zona is counsel for Fernandez. At the hearing on the motion to reconsider last Friday, assistant attorneys general Teri Tenorio and Jonathan Wilberscheid appeared for the government. Wilberscheid argued the motion. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

AQUA RESORT CLUB SAIPAN
CAJUN SEA-FEAST
ARC

Cajun Sea-Feast is back!!! For a limited time only, come indulge in Aqua Resort Club's Cajun inspired Seafood Feast, while enjoying Saipan's beautiful sunset on our Beachfront Deck!!!

We take a variety of fresh seafood, steamed in a bag of mouth-watering Cajun spices, we shake it up, we pour it out on the table covered in plastic, give you bibs, and let you go at it!

Maine Lobster, Snow Crab, Jumbo Shrimp, Jumbo Squid, Black Mussels, Clams, Baby Octopus, and Spicy Chamorro Sausage, paired with Nachos w/ Jalapeño Cheese and a Vanilla Ice Cream Sundae for your sweet tooth!

Not enough? Each order is complimented with your choice of a bucket of mixed Bud Family Beers, a Pitcher of Sangria, or Specialty Lemonades and Southern Sweet Tea!

ARC

Dinner is Available Every Sunday & Thursday from 7/22 to 8/30
Reservations Required.
Call +1 (670) 322-1234 to make your reservation today!

NMC info sessions next week

Individuals interested in furthering their education or expanding their income potential are encouraged to attend one of two Northern Marianas College information sessions next week.

The first session will be on Tuesday, July 31, 2018, and the second session will be held on Thursday, Aug. 2, 2018. The sessions will cover topics that include degree programs, financial aid options, the Prior Learning Assessment program, admissions, and other topics.

Both info sessions will be held from 5:30pm to 6:30pm at NMC's Cafe Proa, located at the college's As Terlaje campus. Cafe Proa is located near the NMC Bookstore.

Attendees of the information sessions will qualify to have their application fee and their placement test fees waived for NMC's upcoming fall 2018 semester, a savings

16 take part in fisheries class

Sixteen high school students on Saipan took part in the 2018 High School Summer Fisheries course funded by office of the Western Pacific Regional Management Council.

Josh Villagomez, a Cha-Cha Ocean View Middle School science teacher who coordinated the program, said he felt that students "will greatly benefit" from the program. He said it enabled high school students to think about a possible career in the fisheries industry.

The program was held at the ChaCha Ocean View Middle School where students met with presenters in class and took field trips. In the curriculum, students learned about fish biology and habitat, fishing techniques, traditional canoe skills and management, fish data collection, fish management process, fishery enforcement, aquaculture, CPR certification, seafood/fish preparation, and coral reef health.

WPRFMC program director Jack Ogumoro established the course to strengthen students' fishery skills. It offers students a two-week fishery management course and a hands-on glimpse of possible career choices in the field. The course began last July 9 and ended on July 20.

For more information, email Villagomez at vil-lagomez99@gmail.com. (Fahim Uddin)

of about \$75.

Roundtrip shuttle service will be provided from Tanapag and Kagman on

each day that the info session is held. Pick up times from Tanapag Middle School and the Kagman Market will

be at 4:30pm, and the return dropoff time from NMC back to Tanapag and Kagman will be at 7pm.

For more information about registering for classes for the upcoming fall 2018 semester or to apply for admission,

contact the NMC Office of Admissions and Records at 237-6768/6769/6771 or visit www.marianas.edu. (PR)

Going on Now!



HOT SUMMER COOL DEALS!

2018 MAZDA 3i SPORT

STARTING AT

\$17,995

OR AS LOW AS **\$119** PER PAYCHECK

- Fuel-efficient 4-cyl. SkyActiv Engine
- Automatic Transmission • Back-up Camera
- Keyless Entry w/ Push-button Start
- MazdaConnect Infotainment System
- Loads of Safety features.

2017 IIHS TOP SAFETY PICK


37
MPG



2018 CX-5 SPORT

STARTING AT

24,995

OR AS LOW AS **\$165** PER PAYCHECK

- Fuel-efficient 4-cyl. SkyActiv Engine
- Automatic Transmission • Back-up Camera
- Keyless Entry w/ Push-button Start
- MazdaConnect Infotainment System
- Loads of Safety features.

EPA FUEL ECONOMY TOP RATED


31
MPG



\$500 Truckload Store shopping certificate with the purchase of a new Mazda!

TRIPLE J MOTORS

Beach Road, Chalan LauLau

Tel: 234-7133/234-3051

OPEN Open: Mon-Fri: 8am to 6pm • Sat: 8am to 5pm

autosales@triplejsaipan.com

TRUCKLOAD STORE



WWW.TRIPLEJSAIPAN.COM



*On approved credit (OAC). Some conditions apply. Doc fees and registration not included. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Vehicles may not be exactly as shown. See dealer for more details. Maximum credit card payment toward vehicle purchase is 2,500. While supplies last. Mazda3i Sport – Total price is 17,995. Financed at 2.9% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$258.04 OR \$119 per paycheck based on a 20% down-payment and 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price is \$15,482.40. CX-5 Sport – Total Price is 24,995. Financed at 2.9% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$358.41 OR \$165.42 per paycheck base on a 20% down-payment and 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price is \$21,504.60.

CUC to get \$2.2M for water infra mitigation

A total of \$2,244,224 in Federal Emergency Management Agency hazard mitigation assistance has been awarded for Phase II of the Water Systems

Mitigation Project in the Commonwealth.

“We received the notification of funding approval for the Water System Mitigation

Project for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.,” said Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres. “I am very pleased that we can begin Phase I and Phase II

of this project which will improve our overall water production and increase the resilience of water wells during times of disaster.”

According to the Virginia Villagomez, the governor’s

GUANLAO

From Page 1

not allege economic hardship if she were to return to the Philippines.

Nor would her medical needs suffer if she were to return to the Philippines. Indeed, Zack said, Guanlao has previously indicated that she needs to return to the Philippines for medical care.

Zack said Guanlao has a valid order of removal and it is in the public interest to allow that order to take effect.

She said this case presents

the narrow question of whether petitioner received ineffective assistance of counsel such that she was prevented from filing a justiciable petition for review in 2015.

A determination of this question does not have CNMI-wide implications on “nonresident worker’s due process rights,” Zack said, contrary to the argument raised by Guanlao’s counsel, Rosemond Santos.

Guanlao is a Filipino mother of two minor U.S. children who has been fighting a 2013 immigration court’s order for her removal.

Guanlao, through Santos,

has asserted that whatever the decision the District Court reached in her case will be an important ruling on a question affecting nonresident worker’s due process rights.

Santos said Guanlao’s case presents a unique challenge between clear violations of due process and the immigration administrative process requirements.

Guanlao is appealing to the Ninth Circuit that seeks to reverse the District Court’s ruling that dismissed her petition for a writ of habeas corpus. The petition seeks to appeal the immigration’s re-

moval order.

Santos is moving the District Court to grant Guanlao’s motion for stay of the ordered dismissal of her petition and the lifting of the stay of removal, pending an appeal of the final order to the Ninth Circuit.

Guanlao first moved to Saipan in April 1994 and has been in the CNMI for the past 24 years. She married her husband (also a nonresident worker) in December 2000. Together they have children, ages 12 and 15 years old, who were both born in the CNMI and are U.S. citizens.

CW

From Page 1

“We are anticipating [the enactment of H.R. 5956 today],” Bautista told *Saipan Tribune*. “We were up early morning [yesterday] waiting for the bill because we were told it would be signed [yesterday or today].”

When asked for comments on the imminent deadline for Trump to enact H.R. 5956, which was earlier said to happen by July 24, 2018 Eastern Standard Time, Bautista noted that the administration would reserve its comments until the bill receives action. EST is 14 hours behind local time, which is designated as

Chamorro Standard Time.

According to a previous newsletter from Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), Trump has yet to act on the bill. Sablan noted that Trump has until July 24 to sign the bill, veto it, or allow it to become law without his signature.

According to previous statements from the Torres administration, Trump did assure that he would enact H.R. 5956, which Sablan co-sponsored.

According to the U.S. Constitution, any legislation that passes the U.S. Congress becomes law after 10 days if Congress is in session. The legislation becomes law assuming that it is not first vetoed by the President, in which

case the legislation is killed and does not become law.

Sablan, in a statement to *Saipan Tribune* last July 11, 2018, clarified that it was only then that the constitutional 10-day period for a bill to become law started. The 10 days does not include Sundays.

H.R. 5956 resets the number of CW visa slots for fiscal year 2019 to 13,000 instead of the 4,999 slots U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services had designated for the fiscal year. USCIS reportedly set the CW slots at a low number in anticipation of the CW program’s slated sunset of Dec. 31, 2019.

The legislation also continues the bar on claims of asylum in the CNMI, which allows for the parole author-

ity of the CNMI for Chinese tourists, which Sablan previously stated was about 45 percent of all arrivals to the NMI. The CNMI economy revolves around the tourism industry.

The legislation further provides for better status for CW visa holders who have been continuously employed in the NMI since fiscal year 2015 by allowing their employers to apply for a CW-1 visa that is valid for three years while also extending the transitional period to 2029, effectively extending the CW program and several other transitional programs by an additional 10 years.

H.R. 5956 passed U.S. Congress unanimously on June 28, 2018.

DOJ

From Page 1

sion, said that all stakeholders who wish to participate in the administrative process of reviewing the environmental impacts of the CNMI Joint Military Training program have a full opportunity to do so now.

Accordingly, Ferrell said, there is no practical or legal reason for the U.S. District Court for the NMI to order the U.S. Department of the Navy to redo the environmental impact statement it completed for the Guam relocation of Marines, which was substantially complete in 2010 and supplemented in 2015.

Ferrell’s arguments is intended to support the Department of the Navy’s and Department of Defense’s motion for summary judgment in connection with these four group’s lawsuit.

The groups—the Tinian Women Association, Guardians of Gani, Pagan Watch, and the Center for Biological Diversity—are suing the Navy

and Defense departments and their top officials for alleged violation of the NEPA and Administrative Procedure Act over their decision to relocate 5,000 U.S. Marines from Okinawa to Guam and to conduct live-fire training on Tinian and Pagan.

Ferrell said the Navy studied the CJMT and the Guam relocation of Marines as separate actions as each serves important independent purposes.

As the court has observed, Ferrell said, the Guam relocation honors political commitments and binding international legal obligations between the U.S. and Japan.

“The record also shows that CJMT holds independent significance: it provides a forum for joint and allied training on U.S.-controlled land, which is currently unavailable in the Pacific theater,” he said.

Nothing in the record supports the groups’ contention that Okinawa-based Marines would not be able to “function as a fighting force” once relocated to Guam, Ferrell said.

He said the court should defer to the Navy secretary’s

“well-reasoned decision” regarding what training is necessary to relocate the Marines as outlined in the Guam International Agreement and political commitments made by the U.S. government to Japan.

Ferrell said the groups now claim that the Navy did not study the cumulative impacts on Tinian of the firing ranges planned for the Guam relocation, together with the expanded ranges contemplated as part of CJMT.

“But these projects are mutually exclusive: the Tinian ranges studied in the Guam relocation are the ‘no action alternative’ for CJMT on Tinian and will not be built if CJMT is approved,” he said.

Accordingly, he said, the groups’ concerns are academic.

Ferrell pointed out that the groups’ new claim concerning the Mariana fruit bat is untimely and also fails on its merits.

He said the Navy did study the Marine relocation’s cumulative impacts on the Mariana fruit bat, and the Navy reasonably scoped that analysis.

He said the court should

defer to the Navy secretary’s reasonable judgments and expertise on matters of military training and reject the groups’ unfounded accusation that the Navy eliminated training from its NEPA review.

Ferrell said the Navy did analyze the impact of proposed ranges on Tinian.

Ferrell said that, as previously discussed, the CJMT would replace the four Tinian-based ranges that were approved in the 2010 Record of Decision.

Thus, he said, the currently approved Tinian ranges and the CJMT-based training projects will not co-exist. If they do not co-exist, he pointed out, they cannot, by definition, have cumulative impacts.

Ferrell said the groups’ new argument that the Navy failed to consider the cumulative impacts to Mariana fruit bats is not properly argued before the court.

He said the groups, two years into this litigation, allege and argue for the first time that the Navy failed to consider the cumulative impacts of the Guam relocation on the Mariana fruit bats.

authorized representative, the money covers Phase II with a federal share of \$1,353,343.

“The total award for this project, including the first phase, amounts to \$7,264,233. At the beginning of this project, we were awarded \$5,020,009 for Phase I. We have informed CUC of the available disbursement and we look forward to completing this project and strengthening our overall infrastructure,” Villagomez said.

Phase I is 90 percent design inclusive of Phase II and now both phases can be solicited competitively.

FEMA Region IX director of mitigation Juliette Hayes stated in her letter that the project approval was based on a favorable cost-effective analysis and the

completion of the first grant period of performance.

The scope of work includes: The procurement and installation of 12 pad-mounted generators strategically located to provide emergency back-up to 91 water wells; the procurement and installation of one 1000-KW containerized generator with an integral fuel storage tank; the procurement of seven new concrete structures and two hardened buildings for the housing of new generators and electrical switchgear; and the installation of hardened wind-resistant concrete poles, with new power transformers and associated attachments.

The current approved completion date for the project is Aug. 5, 2019. (PR)

TWINS

From Page 1

and accident involving (bodily injury): Failure to stop.

The Muña brothers were directed to respond; they will be arraigned on July 30. The preliminary hearing was held last July 20.

The two were then remanded into the custody of the Department of Corrections.

At the preliminary hearing last Friday, the judge heard the testimony of police officers Joseph Magofna and Juan Deleon Guerrero and police detective Roque Camacho.

Assistant attorney general Charles Lee appeared for the government. Anthony Muña appeared with assistant public defender Jean Pierre Nogues. Vincent Muña appeared with court-appointed counsel Mark Scoggins.

In a separate robbery case that happened at the Grotto last April 25, Camacho found probable cause to charge Anthony Muña with burglary, but no probable cause to charge him with two counts of theft.

The judge found no probable cause to charge Vicente Muña with burglary and two counts of theft.

The prosecutor moved to dismiss eight other counts of theft against Anthony and Vicente Muña. The judge accepted the motion.

In a theft case that occurred at Wing Beach last June 1, Camacho found no probable cause to charge the Muña brothers with theft.

Police said the Muña confessed to their involvement in the hit-and-run incident and admitted to other robbery cases in Marpi and Garapan. That led investigators to recover some of the stolen items belonging to the tourists that the Muña brothers had thrown away in the bushes.

Department of Public Safety crash investigator Sgt. Norris Kwon testified that, during an interview last June 11, the

Muña brothers confessed they were smoking pot inside a car prior to attempting to snatch the purse of the tourist who was walking with a friend on Beach Road near Mascot Auto Parts in southern Garapan.

Kwon said that Anthony Muña admitted he was the driver of the car and that he had smoked six joints of marijuana that morning shortly before the hit-and-run incident.

In the hit-and-run case, the victim suffered multiple abrasions in the body and head.

In the robbery cases, police officer Roque K. Camacho stated in his report that Vicente Muña admitted that he and Anthony broke into a van at the Grotto and stole several bags and that they also stole a bag at Wing Beach in Marpi.

Camacho said investigation showed that a Ford passenger van loaded with 12 tourists arrived at Grotto in the afternoon of April 25, 2018.

When the tourists returned to the van after snorkeling, they discovered that the van’s window had been damaged and a piece of rock was on the driver’s seat.

Eight tourists claimed that their bags, money, cellphones, credit cards, passports, jewelry, keys, and other items were stolen. The money and some items were worth \$10,492.

The Wing Beach theft case happened on the morning of June 1, 2018. An employee of the Phoenix Photo Shop, along with three tourists, had gone to the beach for picture taking.

The group placed their belongings on the sand as they walked to the boonie area for picture taking.

One of the tourists saw a man take off with their belongings on a red car.

Police said further investigation showed that the twin brothers and associates were also involved in break-ins of vehicles in Marpi and purse snatching incidents in Garapan. The cases are still pending for investigation.

Palau moves away from oil

NEW YORK CITY—The Republic of Palau has formed a new partnership with three private companies to transition the island nation toward renewable energy.

Palau made the partnership with EarthX, GridMarket, and the Global Island Partnership during the United Nations' High-Level Political Forum to help island and coastal communities achieve their renewable energy and resilient infrastructure goals.

Palau's political leadership, GLISPA's international network, GridMarket's innovative technology, and EarthX's resources are collectively accelerating the transition of small island developing states toward renewable energy and resilient infrastructure.

This new partnership, called "Island Resilience Partnership," builds on the Island Resilience Initiative, enhancing the effort by island leaders to scale models for local implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals with new resources and technologies.

As host of the "Our Ocean Conference" in 2020, Palau is making the partnership a cornerstone of its efforts to combat the effects of climate change.

"The voyage to a resilient and sustainable future is not

one that is taken alone, but by a movement of cities, states, islands, and countries working together to shape the future we want," said Pala President Tommy Remengesau.

"Our partnership has been working across islands for the past 10 years to build island resilience," said Kate Brown, executive director of GLISPA. "...Too often, islands are dismissed as small and insignificant, but this unique partnership demonstrates why islands are becoming a model for the global transition toward resilient infrastructure."

Palau's public-private partnership is currently transitioning its energy economy away from dependency on imported diesel and toward self-sustaining energy infrastructure—a national plan that was developed and is being implemented at no cost to the country's government due to the generosity of EarthX.

GridMarket, which was spun out of a public-private partnership with the City of New York following Hurricane Sandy, used its predictive

analytics and mapping technology to identify renewable energy and microgrid solutions for Palau's government buildings, commercial properties, and residential homes. "We're honored to be the chosen vehicle for Palau's national transformation," said Nick Davis, CEO of GridMarket.

Trammell S. Crow, founder of EarthX, committed to scaling the public-private partnership in order to help those communities already being impacted by rising sea levels, ocean acidification, and natural disasters. "We now have a proven model for quickly transforming a diesel-dependent country with a fragile energy grid into a resilient, renewable energy-producing nation," said Trammell S. Crow.

Remengesau and the Island Resilience Partnership will be showcasing the progress of its partners with an exhibition and Island Resilience Pavilion at EarthX, the world's largest environmental expo. EarthX2019 will take place April 26-28, 2019, in Dallas, Texas. **(PR)**

QQ RENT A CAR
Starting as low as... **\$29.99**
for a 3rd Party Insurance
Call: 233-8855, 483-8866 or 233-8866
\$100 Security Deposit Required
Garapan • Susupe
Some conditions may apply

ARMATECH
Generator Rewinding
Services and
Maintenance
Tel: (670) 234-8895/97 • Fax: (670) 234-8894
Mobile: (670) 287-5525 / (670) 783-8895



COUNTRY CLUB RESORT

"The First Golf Course in Saipan!"

Great
**SUMMER
PLAYER PROMOTION**

Locals Golf Packages

30 plays for \$100 Membership. 14 plays for \$50 Coupon

Tourist Packages

\$35 package including rentals. \$25 package without rentals.

Children under 12 play free!

Saipan Vegas Golf Resort & Slot Club

Located on Middle Rd (next to McDonald's)
6am to 6pm Daily | Phone (670) 234-7300

Ladder BEACH RESTAURANT
HONGYAN INTERNATIONAL CNMI LLC
LADDER BEACH RESTAURANT
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
POSITIONS FOR IMMEDIATE HIRE:
MANAGER WAIT STAFF
JANITOR CHEF
ASST. COOK SUPERVISOR

 [HTTP://JOIN.LADDERBEACHRESTAURANT.COM](http://join.ladderbeachrestaurant.com)
Enter the URL to access the electronic application
EMAIL: CARMSABLANHE@GMAIL.COM
WWW.LADDERBEACHRESTAURANT.COM
CALL: 285-2845/285-8928
ADDRESS: LADDER BEACH OBYAN

Santos: GMH will still be able to provide services

A Rota senator believes that the Guam Memorial Hospital will still be able to provide its patients the healthcare they deserve despite losing its accreditation last week.

The Joint Commission, which issued the denial that took effect last July 16, is a U.S.-based nonprofit organization that assesses if healthcare organizations in the 50 states and five territories are within the standards they set.

Sen. Teresita A. Santos (R-Rota), the Senate Health and Welfare Committee chair, said it is her belief that “[even] without JGS’ accreditation, GMH will continue to maintain [its] high standard in delivering patients’ care.”

Santos said that it was unfortunate for GMH to lose its accreditation. “It is indeed sad that [GMH], which serves majority of our CNMI [medical] referral [patients], has recently lost its accreditation after a review of JC’s Surveyors Team.”

“Despite its accreditation

Bill proposes incentive for firms that hire those with special needs

The House of Representatives would be taking up a bill that seeks to give tax incentives to businesses that hire individuals with special needs.

The House Ways and Means Committee has recommended House action on House Bill 20-160, authored by Rep. Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), which proposes to provide a tax credit worth \$10,000 per worker to Commonwealth employers who hire those with a disability.

According to the bill, in order to qualify for the tax credit, the individual must be continuously employed by the employer for a minimum of one tax year and, in order to obtain the nonrefundable tax credit, the employer must submit to the Department of Finance Division of Revenue and Taxation a documented compliance letter for each individual issued by a medically acceptable clinic or laboratory.

Committee chair Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) noted during discussions on the bill that the Saipan Chamber of Commerce supports it.

Rep. Donald Barcinas (R-Saipan) pointed out a few typographical errors but, ultimately, the committee did not oppose the intent of the bill. *(Erwin Encinares)*

wouldn’t be affected by GMH losing accreditation, as they would continue to be provided healthcare there.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has also met with Guam officials to have CNMI medical referral patients get the healthcare that they need from medical facilities in the Commonwealth’s southern neighbor.



Santos also offered some good news after CHCC chief executive officer Esther L. Muña released stipends to patients and their escorts to Rota patients.

“[Muña] has mentioned to me that Rota interisland patient referrals and escorts’ stipend will be issued out [today] as CHCC has promulgated its policy. Patients and escorts will be receiving \$25 each per day,” said Santos. *(Jon Perez)*

Navy awards Japan-funded contract for Marine relocation to Guam

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM—Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific awarded yesterday a \$56.7 million firm-fixed price contract to Caddell-Nan a joint venture of Montgomery, Ala., for the construction of a new outpatient facility at Apra Harbor on Naval Base Guam.

The scope of work for the project includes a single level outpatient facility constructed of reinforced concrete with slab-on-grade foundations, and with all components such as exterior walls, windows, roofing, mechanical and electrical systems compatible with the Guam environment and design standards. Facilities include administration, primary care/family practice medical home, optometry clinic, physical therapy, in-



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CUC-RFP-18-019

Supply and Services for Installation & Commissioning of 2 X 8-13 MW of Diesel Generating Plant System

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities to supply, install, integrate and commission (including without limitation all design, engineering, supervision, installation, testing, commissioning, training and handover) of (2) two complete new engine systems. Proposers must note that replacement of Engine No. 8 is the base proposal while the replacement of Engine No. 4 is an additive proposal. Each replacement Diesel Generating Plant shall be within a capacity range of 8 - 13 MW which must be supplied, installed, tested, and commissioned as an integrated system at CUC Power Plant No. 1, Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The solicitation seeks proposals from a legally recognized business entity authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, which has as one or more of its equity owners (principals) a qualified ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURER (OEM), from which CUC intends to contract with to purchase one, and perhaps two, fully installed and commissioned turn-key engine systems that best fit CUC's power supply requirements. The Proposer must be authorized as OEM's agent to bind OEM to contractual terms including issuance of OEM's equipment warranty and certifying the installation of the works anticipated under this RFP meet OEM specifications, the Proposal, and meet or exceed all warranty requirements.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$500.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan on **July 18, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to the Power Plant facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **“CUC-RFP-18-019 – Supply and Services for Installation & Commissioning of 2 X 8-13 MW of Diesel Generating Plant System”** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than August 23, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A *Proposal Guarantee* equal to fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposed price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Discussions may be conducted with responsible Proposers who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing Proposers.

All Proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility for any act of omission on the part of the Proposer due in whole or in part to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under any anticipated contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Proposers are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable

Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including without limitation any and all excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page:

<https://marianaslabor.net/>. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.



This RFP solicits services regulated by the Commonwealth's Board of Professional Licensing (BPL). All bidders shall possess Certificate of Authority from the BPL as contemplated in and required by NMIA ss 125-20.1-501 which provides in part that any corporation or partnership "Firm," whether organized under the Law of the CNMI or other jurisdiction, hereafter offering to engage or engaging in the practice of engineering, architecture, land surveying, or landscape architecture in the Commonwealth must have a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) issued by the Board. All firms must have a valid Certificate of Authorization before advertising to offer or offer professional engineering, architectural, land surveying, or landscape architectural services in the CNMI. All bids submitted shall be accompanied by a certificate of authority in the name of the OEM submitting the bid.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 23, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Christopher Timmons, Assistant Attorney General, via email address christopher_timmons@cnmioag.org and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting, Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS

DPW-18-IFB-020

KOBLERVILLE YOUTH LEARNING CENTER BUILDING EXPANSION

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Koblerville Youth Learning Center Building Expansion**, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **July 25, 2018** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect.”

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **August 13, 2018, 9:00 a.m. local time** at Project Site, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **August 21, 2018** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **“DPW-18-IFB-020”**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time August 27, 2018**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, August 27, 2018**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@cnmidof.net. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **August 27, 2018** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **September 5, 2018**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, September 7, 2018**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m. local time, on August 27, 2018**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (**\$25,000.00**) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **\$70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and

b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash

2) US Gov't Securities

3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange

4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and

5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Fifty (150) working days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred Dollars (US\$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

Kilili announces 2018 App Challenge

Delegate Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) once again invites all middle school and high school students to showcase their creativity and technological talents by designing and submitting apps for the 2018 Congressional App Challenge.

Between now and Sept. 10, students may register online for the challenge, individually

or in teams of up to four, at <http://www.congressionalappchallenge.us/>. Submissions are due Oct. 15.

"The App Challenge inspires young people across the nation to develop their skills in coding, computer science and other STEM [science, technology, engineering, and mathematics] fields, and to apply their ideas to solve problems in fun and innovative ways," Sablan said. "We have plenty of young programming talent in the Marianas. The App Challenge is a wonderful opportunity to grow that talent."

Short for "application," an "app" is software that can be run on a variety of devices for different purposes, such as entertainment, health monitoring, and enhancing work performance.

Challenge participants may create any type of app they like, on any platform, and covering any topic, as long as it is original, appropriate, and meets certain



File photo shows Marianas High School students Daniel Villarmero and Chenoa Bunts-Anderson demonstrating their winning app, "The Student Companion," to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan and Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer at the Capitol in April. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

functional requirements. Submission requirements include a registration form, app information, a 1-3 minute video demonstrating what the app does and how it works, and an exit questionnaire.

Last year's winning app,

"The Student Companion," was designed by Marianas High School students Chenoa Bunts-Anderson and Daniel Villarmero.

Bunts-Anderson and Villarmero presented their app to members of Congress and representatives of the

technology industry at the House of Code reception in Washington, D.C. this past April. Check out their app at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JiTV6ZKierc&feature=youtu.be>.

Details about the App Challenge are available at the

congressional office's website at <https://sablan.house.gov> or the App Challenge's official website, <http://www.congressionalappchallenge.us/>. For more information, contact the congressional office at kilili@mail.house.gov or call 323-2647. **(PR)**

SHRM sets July meeting

The Society for Human Resource Management NMI Chapter invites its members, associated HR and management staff, and interested members of the public to attend its next general membership meeting on Thursday, July 26, 2018. This lunch meeting will be held at the Pacific Islands Club Charley's Charley's Cabaret tomorrow, July 26, 2018, from 11:30am to 1:30pm.

The meeting will feature assistant attorney general Bobbi Cepeda, who will discuss employer obligations under the newly-enacted CNMI Public Law 20-60 "State Directory of New Hires."

This presentation will provide information on reporting requirements and the processing of income withholding orders for child support under this new law, which came into effect in June 2018. The presentation is open to the public and will provide information for employers, managers, and HR professionals and staff.

The presentation includes the PIC lunch buffet at the cost of \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for non-members. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Penny Jones by e-mail at penelope.jones@hyatt.com or Denise Montenegro at denise.montenegro@hyatt.com or by telephone at 323-5867/68.

SHRM is the world's largest association devoted to human resource management. **(SHRM)**

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



Happy birthday to our dear teacher, Eydie Uy. We wish you all the best in life. Keep being healthy and may you have more birthdays to come. Greetings come from the staff and management of Sun Palace Hotel and Make-over Beauty Salon.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



2018 PILOT

The Modern Family SUV

★★★"8 SEATER"★★★



starting at **\$35,995**

***\$40 DOWNPAYMENT or \$2,000 CASH BACK**

AS LOW AS 3% APR*

CR-V

IN STOCK NOW

starting at **\$27,995**

***\$40 DOWNPAYMENT or \$1,000 CASH BACK**

AS LOW AS 3% APR*

2018 **MOTOR TREND**

SUV OF THE YEAR





AS LOW AS 3% APR*



SERVING THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS 40 YEARS

Joeten Motors POWERED BY YOU

1978 - 2018

Visit us at www.joetenmotorsaipan.com

SHOWROOM HOURS:

MON. - FRI. 8 AM - 6 PM • SAT. 8 AM - 12 NOON TEL. (670) 234-5562

Vehicle may not be exactly as shown • Some conditions apply • On approved credit See dealer for details • While Supplies last. **See www.honda.com for full disclaimer information



Joeten Motors

POWERED BY YOU

IT&E community contributions in May and June



From left, Patrick Augustin, IT&E accountant; Edna Nisola, IT&E marketing intern; Joel Vallega, public relations officer for community events at United Filipino Organization; Marlon Regaton, president of United Filipino Organizations; Hannah Bognot, IT&E accountant; and Amy Quito-Weiss, business account manager at IT&E.

IT&E



From left, Janet Aguon, enterprise sales manager of IT&E; Kaoru Camacho of Guam Junior Golf League; Jennifer Shen of Guam Junior Golf League; Jim Oehlerking, CEO of IT&E; Mel Davis, coach of Guam Junior Golf League; and Angela Rosario, director of marketing & product development of IT&E.

IT&E

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office
 Guma' Hustisia, Imwal Aweewe, House of Justice
 P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950
 Telephone (670) 236-9715 Facsimile (670) 236-9702

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB18-JUDICIARY-03

SUBMISSION: AUGUST 3RD, 2018 TIME: 10:00 A.M.
"TWO (2) NEW 2018-2019 VEHICLES (5 Door All-Wheel Drive Utility Vehicle)"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE CASHIER WINDOW, WINDOW # 1, LOCATED AT THE FRONT OF GUMA HUSTISIA / IMWAL AWEWE / HOUSE OF JUSTICE, SUSUPE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMHC SECTIONS 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
JUDICIARY EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY

/S/ JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICE

HARMON, Guam—IT&E partnered with organizations in the Marianas and Guam this past May and June to help the islands thrive.

■ IT&E provided support to the Saipan Mayor's Office for the 2018 Liberation Day Festivities.

■ IT&E contributed to Saipan's *Pistang Pinoy*, hosted by the United Filipino Organizations, which celebrated 120 years of Philippine Independence, the Filipino culture, and the contributions of the Filipino community.

■ \$2,915 was donated and a game was hosted at the Guam Junior Golf League Fundraising Tournament.

■ Phone, fax, and internet services were provided to the Northern Mariana Museum of History and Culture.

■ IT&E sponsored the 2018 IT&E Badminton Tournament on the weekends of May 11-13 and 18-20 to benefit the Northern Marianas Badminton Association.

■ Four mobile Wi-Fi devices with unlimited 4G LTE data were provided to Guam Spraycation.

■ IT&E's Employee Service and Events Committee volunteered and donated supplies

to Kamalen Karidat to provide hot meals to Guam residents struggling with homelessness.

■ A total of \$7,527.09 was raised through various employee fundraising efforts for the Relay for Life to benefit the American Cancer Society Guam Chapter. IT&E also partnered with GRMC and IP&E to form Team Purple Carabao and participate in the relay.

■ Playground equipment was donated to the Mayor's Office of Rota to be installed in the Sinapalo Children's Park on Rota.

■ High-speed fiber optic cable for free Wi-Fi was installed at youth centers in the CNMI, including those in

Koblerville, San Antonio and Chalan Kanoa.

■ \$8,700 was raised through IT&E booth sales at the Marianas March Against Cancer event and \$3,119.36 was raised at IT&E's signature event, Scavenger Hunt for Life. The funds support the efforts of the Commonwealth Cancer Association.

■ \$2,500 in cash and \$2,500 in in-kind donations were provided to Saipan's 23rd Annual Governor's Tournament of Champions.

■ Samsung J5 Pro phones and cellular and data service were gifted to the Mayor's Office of Tinian to be awarded as prizes for the San Jose Fiesta. (PR)

KHS main office closed at noon

The Kagman High School main office will be closed between 11am and 1pm today, July 25, 2018, as KHS

staff will be participating in a working lunch. There will also be accreditation meeting between 11am and 1pm. Par-

ents are encouraged to continue to drop off registrations with complete documentation between 7:30am and 11am. Registration and office hours will resume at 1pm. (PR)

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
 Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-18-026

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO PROVIDE A BASIC LINEMAN TRAINING PROGRAM

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to provide a basic lineman training program for CUC, Power Transmission & Distribution Division.

The RFP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one RFP package set.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-RFP-18-026, Basic Lineman Training Program"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **August 14, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Submissions, in PDF, must also be emailed to the addresses as noted in the RFP. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 31, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Lee Lieto, Power T&D Manager, via email address lee.lieto@cucgov.org, Roger Madriaga, Human Resource Training Coordinator, via email address roger.madriaga@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANUEL B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
 Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.mp>

PUBLIC NOTICE
 "This notice is paid for with HUD funds by NMHC"

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, and the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, Aubry Hocog, wish to announce that the Program Year 2018 Annual Action Plan is available for the public's review and comments. The Action Plan encompasses applications for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (HESG) Programs in the Commonwealth. Comments may be directed to Mr. Jacob Muna, Planner, NMHC Central Office, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, or by fax to (670) 234-9021. Deadline for the comment period is August 10, 2018, no later than 4:30 p.m.

The Plan is available for public review and inspection at NMHC's Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, and at the respective NMHC Field Offices in Tinian and Rota during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for CNMI holidays. Individuals needing special accommodations to review and comment on the plan must contact Mr. Jacob Muna for arrangements by calling (670) 234-6866/7689 during regular business hours.

/s/
 Zenie P. Mafnas
 Deputy Corporate Director

"NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender, and employer."

TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION
 Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold its Regular Meeting on Tuesday, July 31, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Hearing Room.

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY**
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Adoption of Agenda
 - d. Adoption of Minutes
 - 1) June 26, 2018 - Regular Meeting
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS¹**
- III. REPORTS**
 - a. Chair's Report
 - b. Executive Director's Report
- IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - a) Proposed House Local Bill to Enact the Revised Tinian Casino Gaming Control Act of 1989
 - b) Professional Services Agreement (2-months) Transcend IT Solutions – Mr. Mark Badal
- V. NEW BUSINESS**
 - a) Adoption & Certification of Regulations - Internet Gaming Operations
 - b) Adoption & Certification of Regulations - Junket & Complimentary
- VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION²**
- VII. MISCELLANEOUS/ ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

¹Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.
²Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.



VICTORIOUS RETURN
Members of the CNMI Junior and Senior thespians pose with the awards they earned at the International Thespian Festival held in the last week of June in Lincoln, Nebraska. Eighteen International Thespian Society CNMI team members came home with Superior Medals, along with four perfect scores in the national individual events

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SSHS registration deadline
The last day to turn in registration for all students at Saipan Southern High School will be on July 31, 2018, Tuesday. All students must turn in their registrations by this date. Required documents must be copied before turning in. If there is any other information or question, call the main of-

fice at 664-4000. Office hours are Monday-Friday from 7:30am to 4:30pm. *(PR)*

Chamber meeting on Aug. 1
The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will have its general membership meeting in August on Aug. 1 at Charley's of the Pacific Islands Club at noon. The guest speakers will be Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente, who will share updates from her agency regarding the workforce, employment numbers, and new projects; and Kanae Quinn and Wendi Herring, directors on the Make A Wish Foundation board, to speak about the good deeds of this organization in granting wishes for children in need. *(PR)*



JOB OPENINGS!!!

We are looking for passionate and energetic people who are customer-focused to be part of our growing team.

CULINARY	
International Sous Chef	International Chef De Partie Pastry Sous Chef
Pastry Chef De Partie	Chinese Sous Chef Chinese Chef De Partie
FRONT OFFICE	
Guest Service Supervisor Guest Service Attendant	
HOUSEKEEPING	FOOD & BEVERAGE
Housekeeping Attendant	Restaurant Supervisor Servers
RESERVATION	
Reservation Manager Reservation Assistant Manager	
ENGINEERING	
General Maintenance / Electrician	

Disclaimer: Must be able to legally work in the CNMI (Saipan) without needing a work visa. Send resumes to hr@mrisaipan.com or pick up an application at our office from 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Visit us at <http://www.kensingtonsaipan.com/en/>

SAIPAN
KENSINGTON
HOTEL
EOE/Drug Free Workplace

**A
BACK
TO
SCHOOL
LOAN**

from the
Bank of Saipan

is the first smart move you can make this school year!
We have loans to fit any budget, come see us today!

Chalan Kanoa Branch
Sablan Building
(670)235-6260

Garapan Branch
Quad L Building
(670)233-6260

Tinian Branch
San Jose Village, Tinian
(670)433-0332

Rota Branch
Songsong Village, Rota
(670)532-2265

Bank of Saipan
The CNMI's Oldest Locally Chartered Bank

Opinion

Hafa Adahi!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVIII, Issue No. 146

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,

Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI

Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
editor@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Islamic State. Diminished, but still dangerous

Silence is golden, particularly when it involves the Islamic State. But silence can also be deceptive. It's true, the militant group that once threatened to establish a caliphate across Syria and Iraq has lost almost all of its territory. Thousands of IS fighters have been killed, as have many of its leaders.

But the Islamist militancy is a cancer that's hard to stop.

The New York Times recently reported that French and German authorities thwarted terrorist plots to carry out attacks using ricin, the poison made from castor beans. Islamic State militants are also relying on encrypted communications and bitcoin to evade intelligence agencies. And, the Times reported, Islamic extremists are appearing in places that up until now were not known as terrorist havens, like Mozambique and Congo.

Islamic State is also trying to make a comeback in Iraq, where it once controlled the northern city of Mosul. The Washington Post reported that Islamic State militants are responsible for a recent wave of bombings, kidnappings and assassinations in a remote section of central Iraq that have killed dozens of people, sparking fears of a new insurgency.

Early on in the rise of Islamic State, it became clear that the group's use of social media to inspire lone wolf attacks was just as much of a potent threat as were the chunks of territory it lay claim to throughout the Middle East. The group's footprint has been radically cut down, but its role as inspiration for mayhem and bloodshed hasn't.

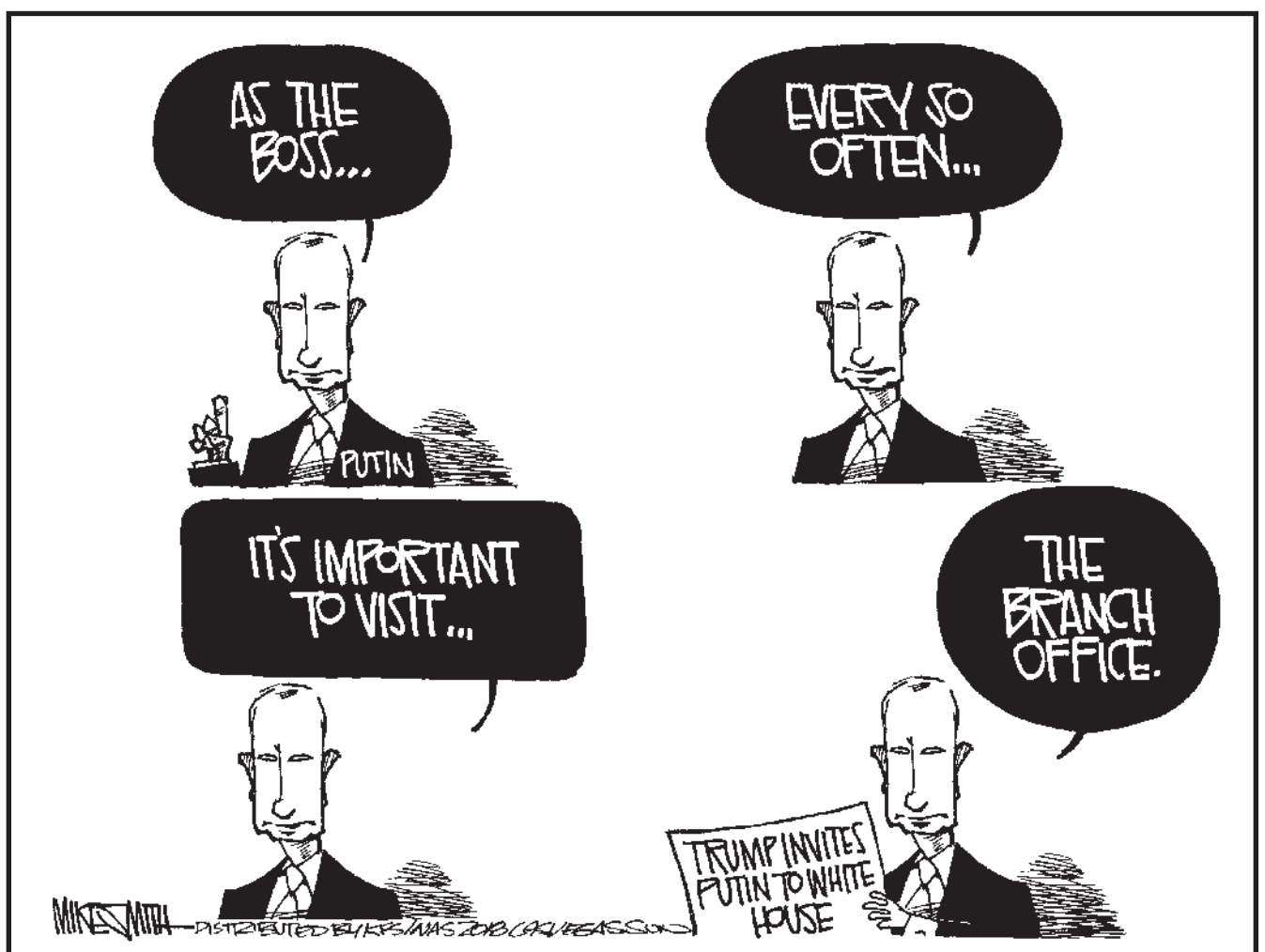
"If you look across the globe, the cohesive nature of the enterprise for ISIS has been maintained," Russell Travers, acting head of the National Counterterrorism Center, told the Times. "The message continues to resonate with way too many people."

That's an observation that the Trump administration shouldn't ignore. And yet, Pentagon leaders have begun talking about cutting in half the number of American counterterrorism forces in Africa over the next three years. That could prove unwise. Africa remains a seedbed for Islamic extremism. Boko Haram in Nigeria. Al Shabab in Somalia. In Libya, Islamic State fighters who fled Syria and Iraq have sought refuge.

As it stands now, the Trump administration is neck-deep in foreign policy quandaries. President Donald Trump is licking his wounds from backlash to his disastrous summit with Vladimir Putin. The potential for denuclearization on the Korean Peninsula remains anyone's guess. The trade war with China continues its slow boil. And NATO continues to worry about relations with a president who questions the alliance's usefulness.

Each remains a top priority for American interests—and Islamist militancy belongs on the same shelf. It's too early to file Islamic State in the "mission accomplished" drawer. Too many times the world has seen months go by without a word from terrorists—only to be broadsided by a sudden episode of carnage in Brussels, London, Manchester, Nice, Orlando or a host of other cities victimized by Islamic State-inspired attacks.

See ISLAMIC on Page 11



An Obama reminder: Conservatives have feelings, too

When Barack Obama's first major speech since his presidency decried today's "utter loss of shame among political leaders," did anyone not know whom he was talking about?

When this country's first African-American president made that point Tuesday during the 2018 Nelson Mandela Annual Lecture in Johannesburg honoring the 100th anniversary of the former South African President's birth, there was no need for Obama to name names—or, in this case, name the name.

When Obama decried the unexpected revival of "strongman politics," rising assaults on "every institution or norm that gives democracy meaning" and the "utter loss of shame among political leaders" who, when caught in a lie, "just double down and they lie some more," you could tell from the jolly crowd reactions that everybody knew who he was talking about.

President Donald Trump, after all, stands alone among presidents for having made more than 3,200 false or misleading claims by the end of May, according to the *Washington Post* Fact Checker's running count.

"Politicians have always lied," Obama acknowledged. "But it used to be if you caught them lying they'd be like, 'Oh man.' Now? They just keep on lying."

Obama defended the importance of facts, science, free press, intellectualism and other virtues we used to take for granted more than we have since this nation's current president took over.

But in a statement that drew an intriguing mix of praise and criticism from conservative critics, Obama's defense of democracy jabbed exclusionary identity politics, the kind that seek to exclude voices who were not born into the aggrieved group.

"Democracy demands that we're able also to get inside the reality of people who are different than us so we can understand their point of view," he said. "Maybe we can change their minds, maybe they'll change ours. You can't do this if you just out of hand disregard what your opponent has to say from the start. And you can't do it if you insist that those who aren't like you because they are white or they are male, somehow there is no way they can understand what I'm feeling, that somehow they lack standing to speak on certain matters."

"I detest racialism," Obama quoted Mandela as saying, "whether it comes from a black man or a white man."

It was on this point that prominent conservative critics, who approved of many of his other comments, charged Obama with hypocrisy.

"Obama Decries the Political Habits That Drove His Career,"

By CLARENCE PAGE

Chicago Tribune

Clarence Page is a member of the Chicago Tribune Editorial Board. Readers may send him email at cpage@chicagotribune.com.



said a headline on an essay by National Review's Jim Geraghty.

"Obama practiced the very identity politics he condemns," said a headline on a Commentary essay by Noah Rothman.

"This is good and true," tweeted conservative commentator Ben Shapiro. "I wish he had said it throughout his presidency instead of relying on identity politics to coalition-build."

Actually, as someone who covered Obama off and on since his days in the Illinois state senate, I have heard him made similar statements ever since his come-together keynote address at the 2004 National Democratic Convention that launched him into the national spotlight.

"The 44th president has consistently touted norms of speech consistent with Enlightenment liberalism," noted the libertarian Reason's associate editor Robby Soave, citing his 2016 Rutgers University commencement address, in which he implored students to engage speakers with whom they disagree, not to shut them down.

Still, "identity politics" is in the eyes and ears of the beholder. Geraghty, for example, cites Obama's friendly relations with the controversial Rev. Al Sharpton as an example of Obama's alleged flirtations with "identity politics." Yet, as much as I may disagree with Sharpton, particularly for the media circuses he stirred up in the 1980s, he can be a valuable source of information and insights into the most alienated segments of black America.

But, as Donald Trump's unexpected Electoral College victory demonstrated, a voice that is a loud and forceful advocate for what voters want can score major political gains, regardless of whether I like their politics or style.

We live in a politically divided nation that needs to move from shouting to healing, as Obama suggests. Democrats seeking to get back to power in Republican-dominated Washington need to expand their reach to attract more persuadable swing voters. They need a form of politics that turns the walls around their groups into bridges.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Nesessidat Mamopble

Para umasedi mas tautau-ta mañanau gi programan SNAP (foodstamps) ni offisinan gobietnu taimanu rinekomendan Kilili pa'gu na semana.

Namagof sa' sin ditension ma-attende i dichu presisu na nesessidat tautau-ta siha gi bandan neñkanu' `sino alimientun familia.

Gigon ha aregla i gobietnu este na asuntu kase 2,000 esta mas ke 4,000 na tautau-ta mankualifikau ayudun SNAP.

Hana' magem sentimentog-hu pot mampus pausa hatsadan suetdun 14,000 na empleau ni gumagana sumen tagpapa' na pagamientu pa'gu. Siha este na tautau-ta mas numesessita ayudu gi bandan mantension kinanu' familia.

Kudos para i dos kabayerus guine na patte. Mas manlibianu tautau-ta gi hilu' suffisiente na mantension niha.

Piligrú: Teñga man-masañgane hit para tana' para mantikan ga'ga' pot tatkilu' haga'. Este na abisu lamayot patte lache!

Gaige mas piligrú gi hinegsa', todú klasen pan, pasta, soba', yan pastre. Rason? Estague' na neñkanu' siha `nai sumen bula asukat. Ti anog sa' ti hechuran asukat tenda. Lau gaige i asukat gi halum asientun este siha na neñkanu'. `Nai madiriti uttimoña mama' mantika gi halum tatautu-mu.

I dididi' na mantika gi fina' katne yan guihan presisu para un' nina'e fuetsa-mu. Ti umetnun gi halum tatautau-mu'. Kul lan gaselina-mu diariu. Nina'e hau fuetsa pot misustansia. Mandage ayu' i baba kontra gugat yan korason-ta. Otdinariu na usu libre hau diariu!

`An duda hau fatachoñg ya un' husga mismu. Todu neñkanu' ni mi-asientu mi-asukat gi mismu tiempu. Este na infotmasion hu chule' ginen estuidiu siha pot haf' propiu na neñaknu' para hinemlu' tatautau kontodu korason.

Repite: Dos presisu na ta comprende: 1). Ti katne ni gai mantika i problema. 2). Gaige lamayot patte gi asukat ni ta papañut diariu. Fuera de asukat gi botsiyu ni tafafahan ginen i tenda, i

sigiente manmi-asukat: hinegsa', todo klasen pan yan pastre, yan pasta. I asukat este siha na neñkanu' mama' mantika gi halum tatautau-mu. Kontodu gugat korason-mu siempre inaminasa. Fuetsau hana' kahulu' libra yan haga-mu sin presisu.

Tinatiye este ni guinaiya-ta mañocho. Achog esta nahuñg sige ha' ta sumuke hit piot yan mañge' i boka. Estague' primet pasun para preparasion daibites. Un' fana' mames haga' yan inipus fina' mantika gi ridondun sintura-mu. Hagu ha' para un' pina-desi diskuidumu.

Atetuye homlu' na modun makonsuman neñkanu'. Utut amanu i siña bisiun para un' ambentuye sentada-mu. Gigon un' si-ente haspug choneg platumu!

■ ■ ■

Santa Maria: `Nai un' tiempu madibate gi lehislaturan Guahan para umana' suha selebrasion ha' anen Santa Marian Kamalin humalum-yu' na guaha siha botlu gi entalu' estrakadan palabra.

Hu hassu lokue' na hupupulan un' fotten pagyu ni fumafana' Marianas direktamente. Lau dispues humanau papa' Guahan ya ayu `nai ha chalapug-gue'. Dios mihu na destrosiu pinegaña.

Nanalau ni para tapan mama' Amerikanu gi bandan relihion. Na ti magahet na katolisismo i petmanente na patte gi kutturan natibu desde mas ke kiñientus años tatte? Hafa na para u saunau fina' botlu? Manmalefa hamyu haye si Santa Maria? Pot fabor fan gai asi' ni anten miyu.

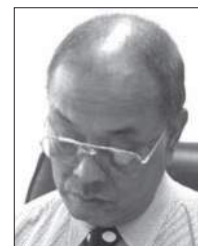
Hu guadog kontodu gi Santa Biblia haf' mantugi' pot si Santa Maria. Huñgan, kase tres biahe mamensiona. Lau hu atetuye yan tatiye ginagau yine'ase' pot afamau na Nanan Hinimiddi yan Pinasensia. Gi ti hoñgiyun siha na bendision hu akseptu nina'iña gi hilu' hinimidi. Hu faisen lokue' para u guatdia yan bendise famaguon-hu piot ayu siha i mangaige gi chagu'.

Bendision ta nesessita ginen as Santa Maria. Ahe' ti matdision taimanu `nai ha sablasus as Pongsona iya Guahan gi `nos kuantus años malofan. Tiñgu' haf' achaiguan miyu! Hinimiddi

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



gi sumen yo'ase' na nanan i Saina-ta.

Minalaño: Gi hiniben-hu megai besis `nai hu soda' un' prohimu sessu sumetmun namaisa gi eskuelan Chalan Kanoa. Hu pasensiaye umekuñgug haf' siha ha esplilika. Desde kuentas esta politika ha pula' kabales. Lau i lumiliku' gi ha'ane offisioña esta i oran deskansu.

Enfin hu faisen haf' pinadesiña na taiguihe uttimoña. Ilegña na ayu ha siente i fotte na putin ulu ni sige papa' gi tatautauña. Kulan mohon matai kandet. Umasungue' dumeskansa guihe na pueñge. Gi sigiente oga'an kulan mahohogsegue' papa un' potput yan makat na sabanas.

`Nai tiha susuñgun putin iluña `nai malag i hospitiat. Manasaga guihe estake dumeskansa. Humalumyu' na machuda' haga' iluña (stroke) na taiguihe pinadesiña.

Inamku': Gi inamko'ta dañkulu lokue' matulaikan fuetsa-ta. I fan guot-ta mas ñaba'. I timo-ta lokue' mas tai fuetsa sumustenin maisague'. `An chatmata hit mas problema kumalamten achog halum guma'.

Gi karera ha saulag hit chenot amku' desde putin koyentura, tomu, kustiyas, yan otu siha chinatsaga. Guiya este na idat `nai ta bira hit tatte manmama' neni pot segundu biahe. Lau muña hinala-ñg. Na'e animu umestira hau diariu. `An haf' un' nesessita hagu un' chogue cha'mu fananagu'. Na'e animu pot hinemlo'mu!

A 150-year-old human? Neither side is folding in The Great Longevity Wager

It's possible that someone reading this column now, in July 2018, will be alive to see the resolution of a \$1 billion bet between Jay Olshansky, a University of Illinois at Chicago professor of public health, and Steven Austad, chairman of biology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Eighteen years ago, the two friends began their discussion on an issue that long has intrigued scientists and laymen alike: What is the limit of the human life span? Given that advances in medicine and nutrition dramatically lengthened average life expectancy over the 20th century, where is the ultimate horizon? Will the longevity record—now held by Jeanne Calment of France, who was 122 years old when she died in 1997—keep getting broken?

Austad, whose research focuses on aging, had made a bold prediction at an academic conference: In the year 2150, he said, there will be a 150-year-old human being.

Olshansky, also an expert on aging, wasn't having it.

They decided to make it interesting. They each put \$150 into an investment fund, and signed a contract specifying that the heirs of the winner will cash it out in 2150.

Early published reports on the wager said the payoff would be from \$200 million to \$500 million given good market returns, but the men have since doubled their initial investments and they now estimate the final jackpot at roughly \$1 billion.

Since they made wager in 2000, average human life spans have inched up, but, interestingly, the longevity record of 122 still stands. In fact no one with a verified birth date has come within three years of Calment's mark since she died 21 years ago in August. In this century, no one has even reached age 118 before expiring.

I had a chance encounter with Olshansky in the green room at

WTTW-Ch. 11 earlier this year and asked him if, in light of the galloping progress of medicine on all fronts, he was having any second thoughts about his position.

None, he said. If anything he's more certain than ever that his descendants—he has one grandchild so far—will be made fabulously wealthy.

In a follow-up interview he explained: "There will certainly be breakthroughs that will slow many of the biological processes of aging. We'll be able to extend the number of years that people can live in good health."

But, he added, "the brain is our Achilles heel. There's still no evidence to suggest that we'll be able to halt the effects of the daily loss of nonreplicating neurons, much less reverse it. We can replace hips, knees, hearts and so on, but we can't replace the brain."

Those with aspirations to rival Methuselah should accordingly be careful what they wish for, Olshansky said. "Life extension without health extension is a disaster."

He said, "With early interventions, we might someday see a person live to 130, but that's adding eight years to the current record and I really don't see it happening."

Even if that were to happen, the last person born in the 2000s—the last person with a chance to be 150 in the year 2150 and win the bet for Austad—will be dead in 2130. In that year, a precocious and genetically blessed 5-year-old reading this column in 2018 will be 117. At that point, Olshansky's heirs could reasonably claim victory.

Won't happen, said Austad.

He, too, believes more firmly than ever in his position.

"We're discovering more and more ways every year to make mice live longer through drugs and diet," he said. "A 150-year-old person is only about 20 percent older than the current record hold-

er rather than reactive. Remember where Islamic State came from. It rose up in 2013 from the remnants of al-Qaida in Iraq, a terrorist group whose defeat was roundly hailed by the West as a crushing blow to Islamist militancy. Trump's predecessor,

er, and we've found dozens of ways to extend the lives of mice by that much. Not all of them will work with humans, of course, but if any of them do, we're going to see dramatic results."

Austad mentioned two drugs that he says have shown particular promise in boosting longevity—rapamycin, an immunosuppressant that helps prevent rejection in transplant patients, and metformin, a prescription medication commonly used to treat Type 2 diabetes.

"Those are my two top candidates," he said. "But there are a ton of others lining up to enter human trials, and I'm confident there are still more that we don't know about yet that will yield breakthroughs. People born today will have a life expectancy of 100."

It's now about 80.

"All we have to do in the next 30 years is find drugs that dramatically slow the underlying causes of aging," Austad said. "If we give them to people approaching 50, some are going to reach the extreme of 150."

My heart is with Austad, but my head is with Olshansky. And my hopes for the future are vested in 5-year-olds who read the newspaper.

Barack Obama, initially underestimated Islamic State's potential; the current administration shouldn't underestimate the group's resiliency and adaptability now.

©2018 Chicago Tribune






ISLAMIC

From Page 10

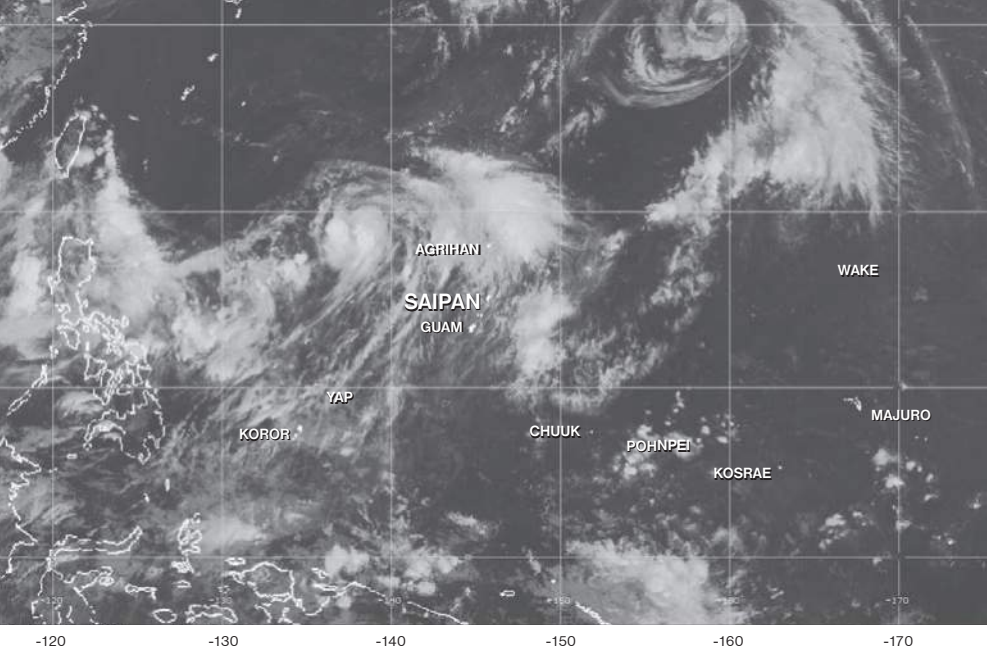
The best strategy against Islamic State is one that is pre-emp-

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:42 AM, TUESDAY, JULY 24, 2018

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

This morning, the Marianas are situated in a relatively quiet regime south of the monsoon trough, between TD 15W about 550 miles west of the islands, and areas of deep convection east of Saipan and well north of Chuuk associated with the southwest monsoon. Isolated showers are seen on radar, with a couple of isolated thunderstorms east of Saipan. The islands are in moderate southwest monsoon flow, with seas near 4 ft at the buoys.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	86° / 80°	
Palau	Thunderstorm	84° / 78°	
Yap	Thunderstorm	86° / 80°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	86° / 77°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	86° / 77°	
Majuro	Mostly Sunny	84° / 80°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	59° / 48°	
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	90° / 75°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	88° / 82°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	87° / 77°	
London	Mostly Sunny	88° / 64°	
Los Angeles	Sunny	93° / 74°	
Manila	Thunderstorm	84° / 77°	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	61° / 48°	
Miami	Thunderstorm	88° / 80°	
New York	Thunderstorm	79° / 73°	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	97° / 82°	
Paris	Mostly Sunny	90° / 66°	
Busan	Sunny	90° / 81°	
Rome	Mostly Sunny	93° / 70°	
Salem	Partly Cloudy	89° / 70°	
San Francisco	Sunny	67° / 57°	
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	91° / 79°	
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	90° / 77°	
Washington, DC	Thunderstorm	80° / 73°	



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
12:00 AM	LOW TIDE	1.20	
05:00 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.80	
12:34 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.14	
7:40 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.71	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:57 AM	6:49 PM
Thursday	5:57 AM	6:49 PM
Friday	5:58 AM	6:48 PM
Saturday	5:58 AM	6:48 PM
Sunday	5:58 AM	6:48 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	3:35 AM	4:48 PM
Thursday	-	4:22 AM	5:36 PM
Friday	-	5:11 AM	6:23 PM
Saturday	-	6:00 AM	7:08 PM
Sunday	-	6:50 AM	7:50 PM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018

DEPARTURES			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)			
JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
U043	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS			
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	7:00am	7:45am	Daily
BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
U042	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
U042	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily
GUAM TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

 **TOYOTA**

**URGENT SAFETY
RECALL REPAIR**

TAKATA AIRBAG INFLATOR DEFECT

Defects in the over-pressurization of the Takata inflator, can cause the inflator to rupture and eject metal fragments when the airbag deploys. This could injure or cause the death of the vehicle’s occupants.



Toyota is conducting a safety recall to address identified defects in the driver and/or passenger front airbag inflators that affect certain vehicles in the following models.

MAKE	MODEL	CAMPAIGN	MAKE	MODEL	CAMPAIGN
TOYOTA	2003-2013 COROLLA	PASSENGER SIDE AIRBAG	TOYOTA	2003-2006 SEQUOIA	PASSENGER SIDE AIRBAG
TOYOTA	2003-2012 MATRIX	PASSENGER SIDE AIRBAG	TOYOTA	2007-2012 YARIS	PASSENGER SIDE AIRBAG
TOYOTA	2003-2006 TUNDRA	PASSENGER SIDE AIRBAG	TOYOTA	2009-2013 4RUNNER	PASSENGER SIDE AIRBAG
TOYOTA	2004-2005 RAV 4	DRIVER SIDE AIRBAG	TOYOTA	2009-2013 SIENNA	PASSENGER SIDE AIRBAG

ONLY a Certified Toyota/Lexus Technician is able to perform the required work, so as a precaution, we request that you bring your vehicle in for our service team to remedy this condition.

There is no cost to you for this work as Toyota is committed to the safety of its customers and wants to make sure your vehicle is as safe as possible for you and your passengers.

To find out if your vehicle is affected by this recall, log on www.toyota.com/recall.

**We’re open on Monday through
Saturday 8 am to 5 pm.**

Free 39-point VHC (visual health check) during your visit.
Refreshments such as doughnuts and coffee will be provided.
To book your appointment, please call 234-5911,
or visit our website at AKsaipan.com.

We appreciate your understanding for this safety recall and apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Oil & Filter Change Special

\$39.95* 5W-30 Oil
FREE Waste
Oil Desposal

for vehicles who complete Takata Airbag Recall Service



Atkins Kroll (Saipan), Inc.
#1 Chalan Msr Guerrero San Jose
Saipan, MP 96950

Call 234-5911

Showroom Hours: Monday to Saturday 8am to 5 pm



Let’s
Go
Places

2018 Liberation Day Parade



JON PEREZ
Japanese Consul Kinji Shinoda joins the festivities of last Saturday's 2018 Liberation Day Parade.



JON PEREZ
Philippine honorary consul Eli Arago waves to the crowd as the parade moves toward the Garapan Fishing Base.



The float entry of the United Filipino Organization.



JON PEREZ
Children enjoy their time as part of the annual parade.



JON PEREZ
Members of the Young Gunz Marianas and Matua Riders Motorcycle Club ride in front of the parade.



JON PEREZ
Members of the Saipan Awaodori Team perform in the parade.



JON PEREZ
Members of the Carolinian Affairs Office on board their float entry.



FAHIM UDDIN
Fireworks lit up the night sky signaling the end of the 2018 Liberation Day festivities at the Garapan Fishing Base.



JON PEREZ
CNMI Liberation Day Queen Brinae Jessilyn Cruz, far right, with her Royal Court.



JON PEREZ
Two personnel from McDonald's ride a giant replica of their world-famous fries.



JON PEREZ
Reigning Miss Marianas Celine Cabrera was also part of the dignitaries who took part on the parade.

Business

Trump reviews ‘Made in America’ products at the White House

WASHINGTON (AP)—Checking out a speedboat, a fighter jet and a giant industrial magnet parked on the White House driveway, President Donald Trump showcased an array of “Made in America” products Monday as his administration pushes back aggressively against critics who say his punishing tariffs on imported goods threaten to harm the U.S. economy.

Trump’s event with a smorgasbord of American goods came at the start of a week in which trade discussions are expected to dominate, including talks with European officials and a trip to Illinois in which the president is planning to visit a community helped along by his steel tariffs.

Trump has vowed to force international trading partners to bend to his will as he seeks to renegotiate a series of trade deals he has long argued hurt American workers. But as he deepens the U.S. involvement in trade fights, it raises ques-

tions on whether American consumers will feel the pain of retaliatory tariffs—and whether the president will incur a political price for his nationalistic trade policies in the 2018 midterm elections.

“Our leaders in Washington did nothing, they did nothing. They let our factories leave, they let our people lose their jobs,” Trump said at the White House. “That’s not free trade, that’s fool’s trade, that’s stupid trade and we don’t do that kind of trade anymore.”

Trump noted that he would be meeting Wednesday with European officials, including European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker. The U.S. and European allies have been at odds over the president’s tariffs on steel imports and are meeting as the dispute threatens to spread to the lucrative automobile business. “Maybe we can work something out,” he said.

On Thursday, the president will visit Granite City, Illi-



President Donald Trump talks with Lockheed Martin president and CEO Marilyn Hewson, right, and director and chief test pilot Alan Norman in front of a F-35 as he participates in a “Made in America Product Showcase” at the White House, Monday, July 23, 2018, in Washington.

Trade analysts say the United States has not pursued such aggressive trade policies in decades.

“I can’t think of another time when you had as many battles and particularly as many battles with no resolution in sight,” said Edward Alden, senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations.

In 1971, President Richard Nixon imposed a broad 10 percent import tax for four months to pressure Japan and European countries to drive up the value of their currencies. The idea: provide relief to American exporters, who were being put at a price disadvantage by a strong dollar.

In 1930, the U.S. raised tariffs dramatically to protect American industry, encouraging other countries to do the same in a global trade war that made the Great Depression worse.

IMF: Venezuela’s inflation on track to top 1M pct

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Inflation in Venezuela could top 1 million percent by year’s end as the country’s historic crisis deepens, the International Monetary Fund said Monday.

Venezuela’s economic turmoil compares to Germany’s after World War I and Zimbabwe’s at the beginning of the last decade, said Alejandro Werner, head of the IMF’s Western Hemisphere department.

“The collapse in economic activity, hyperinflation, and increasing deterioration ... will lead to intensifying spillover effects on neighboring countries,” Werner wrote in a blog post.

The once wealthy oil-producing nation of Venezuela is in the grips of a five-year crisis that leaves many of its people struggling to find food and medicine, while driving masses across the border for relief into neighboring Colombia and Brazil.

Shortages in electricity, domestic water and public transportation plague millions of Venezuelans, who also confront high crime, the IMF noted.

If the prediction holds, Venezuela’s economy will contract 50 percent over the last five years, Werner said, add-

ing that it would be among the world’s deepest economic falls in six decades.

Socialist President Nicolas Maduro often blames Venezuela’s poor economy on an economic war that he says is being waged by the United States and Europe.

Maduro won a second six-year term as president despite the deep economic and political problems in a May election that his leading challenger and many nations in the international community don’t recognize as legitimate.

The IMF estimates Venezuela’s economy could contract 18 percent this year, up from the 15 percent drop it predicted in April. This will be the third consecutive year of double-digit decline, the IMF said.

Werner said the projections are based on calculations prepared by IMF staff, but he warned that they have a degree of uncertainty greater than in other countries.

“An economy throwing you these numbers is very difficult to project,” Werner said at a news conference. “Any changes between now and December may include significant changes.”

nois, the home of a U.S. Steel Corp. mill that has reopened after he imposed tariffs on steel imports.

On the South Lawn, the president walked among a number of products manufactured across the nation, including a Lockheed Martin F 35 aircraft from Maryland, a Ford F-150 pickup truck from Michigan, a Newmar recreational vehicle from Indiana and a Ranger speedboat from Arkansas.

Trump has already put taxes on imported steel and alumi-

num, saying they pose a threat to U.S. national security, an argument that enrages staunch U.S. allies such as the European Union and Canada.

He’s threatening to use the national security justification again to slap tariffs on imported cars, trucks and auto parts, potentially targeting imports that last year totaled \$335 billion.

And he’s already imposed tariffs on \$34 billion in Chinese imports in a separate dispute over Beijing’s high-tech industrial policies. He has

threatened to ratchet that up past \$500 billion.

“He likes tariffs,” said William Reinsch, a former U.S. trade official under President Bill Clinton now at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. “His preferred remedy is always tariffs, whether it makes any sense or not.”

“It’s a policy of victimization: ‘Other people have been taking advantage of the United States for years ... Now they have to pay,’” Reinsch said, echoing the president’s argument.

Drought spurs extreme measures to protect West’s wild horses

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Harsh drought conditions in parts of the American West are pushing wild horses to the brink and spurring extreme measures to protect them.

For what they say is the first time, volunteer groups in Arizona and Colorado are hauling thousands of gallons of water and truckloads of food to remote grazing grounds where springs have run dry and vegetation has disappeared.

Federal land managers also have begun emergency roundups in desert areas of Utah and Nevada.

“We’ve never seen it like this,” said Simone Netherlands, president of the Arizona-based Salt River Wild Horse Management Group. In May, dozens of horses were found dead on the edge of a dried-up watering hole in northeastern Arizona.

As spring turned to summer, drought conditions turned

from bad to worse, Netherlands said.

Parts of Utah, Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico are under the most severe category of drought, though extreme conditions are present from California to Missouri, government analysts say. Parts of the region have witnessed some of the driest conditions on record, amid a cycle of high temperatures and low snowmelt that appears to be getting worse, National Weather Service hydrologist Brian McNerney said.

The dry conditions have fed wildfires that have destroyed hundreds of buildings across the West. This month, a firefighter was killed battling a blaze near California’s Yosemite National Park.

The federal Bureau of Land Management—which oversees vast expanses of public land, mostly in the West—says the problem facing wild horses stems from overpopu-

lation aggravated by severe drought. The region is home to roughly 67,000 wild horses.

“You’re always going to have drought issues. That’s a common thing out on the range,” agency spokesman Jason Lutterman said. “What really exacerbates things is when we’re already over population, because then you already have resource issues.”

The agency’s emergency roundup in western Utah began a week ago, aiming to remove roughly 250 wild horses from a population of approximately 670. The operation is expected to take several weeks.

Once the horses are rounded up, the government gives them veterinary treatment and offers them for sale or adoption. Those that aren’t sold or adopted are transferred to privately contracted corrals and pastures for the long term.

A similar emergency roundup began this month in central Nevada, where officials said

some horses in a herd of 2,100 could die from lack of water in coming weeks. The operation was quickly halted, ironically because of extreme rain, but will likely resume.

“The ground’s so dry it’s not absorbing that water. It’s running off,” bureau spokeswoman Jenny Lesieutre said.

Volunteers are also taking action.

Since late spring, Netherlands’s Salt River group has hauled hay to a dozen locations outside Phoenix to feed a herd of starving wild horses.

Roughly 200 miles (320 kilometers) north, a couple near Gray Mountain, on the Navajo Nation, have spearheaded an effort to leave water and food for horses they say would die without human intervention.

In western Colorado, volunteers say they’re preparing to bring up to 5,000 gallons (18,900 liters) of water per day to a herd of 750 thirsty horses.

STOCK

PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW

25,044.29

-13.83

-0.055%

S&P

2,806.98

+5.15

+0.18%

NASDAQ

7,841.87

+21.67

+0.28%

EXCHANGE RATES

Hong Kong Dollar	7.8453	Russian Ruble	62.9228
Australian Dollar	1.3562	Singapore Dollar	1.3667
British Pound	0.7635	Japanese Yen	111.2970
Canadian Dollar	1.3174	Malaysian Ringgit	4.0201
Chinese Yuan	6.7153	New Zealand Dollar	1.4753
Euro	0.8560	Philippine Peso	52.4583
		Taiwan Dollar	30.1982
		Thailand Baht	33.4215

Nation

Suspect arrested in Oakland train station stabbing attack

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—The wounded sister of an 18-year-old woman fatally stabbed in the neck while transferring trains said they were “blindsided by a maniac.”

Lahtifa Wilson, 26, said that she, her baby sister Nia and a third sister had been returning from a family outing when they were attacked by a man Sunday night.

“I looked back and he was wiping off his knife and stood at the stairs and just looked. From then on, I was caring for my sister,” Wilson told ABC7 News on Monday, speaking outside a family member’s home with a bandage on her neck.

On Monday, authorities arrested John Cowell, 27, who is suspected in the attack at the MacArthur Station in Oakland, according to Bay Area Rapid Transit spokesman Chris Filippi.

Surveillance footage showed a man identified as Cowell fleeing the station through a parking lot and stripping off his clothes there. Detectives recovered a knife they believed was used in the attack at a nearby construction site, said Bay Area Rapid Transit Police Chief Carlos Rojas.

Surveillance video on the train and at the station’s platform showed Cowell had been riding the same car as the sisters, but they did not interact, Rojas said.

As the group got on the platform, Cowell quickly attacked them. “It looks like it was an unprovoked, unwarranted, vicious attack,” Rojas said.



AP
Stabbing victim Lahtifa Wilson, center right, is embraced during a vigil for her sister Nia Wilson outside the MacArthur Bay Area Rapid Transit station, Monday, July 23, 2018, in Oakland, Calif.

Nia was “the baby” among six children, said her eldest sister, Unieve Wilson, 37.

She was “spunky, feisty, loved to dance,” she said. “She wouldn’t harm a fly.”

Ebony Monroe, a cousin of the victims, initially said the third sister, 21-year-old Tashiya Wilson, had been injured but authorities later said it was Lahtifa.

Monroe was among several relatives who went to the train station Sunday night after hearing about the attack. She said the Wilson sisters were returning home after celebrating Nia’s late boyfriend’s birthday. He drowned in a lake two years ago, Monroe said.

Monroe, 24, said her cousin attended Oakland High School and loved her family, dancing and makeup.

“She was a beautiful person inside and out, and she didn’t deserve it,” Monroe said.

Wilson said a woman with a stroller gave her a baby blanket to apply pressure to her sister’s neck, but Nia Wilson died calling out her sister’s name for help.

Wilson said she told her sister she loved her.

“We’re gonna get through this, I got you, you’re my baby sister,” she said.

The women’s father, Ansar Muhammad, said one of his daughters called him, crying hysterically, and told him to get to the MacArthur station.

“It’s nothing imaginable, seeing your child on the BART platform with a yellow

tarp over her body,” Muhammad said Monday evening as he and other family members joined dozens of people for a vigil at the station. “That is an image I’ll never forget for the rest of my life. So I want justice. All I want is justice.”

Cowell was released from state prison on May 6 after completing a sentence for second-degree robbery, said Vicky Waters, spokeswoman for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

Rojas said that Cowell was cited for fare evasion on July 18 and his photo was captured

by an officer’s body camera.

BART officials released that image and another one from surveillance video that shows him at MacArthur station Sunday night dressed in a white and gray sweatshirt and carrying a backpack.

In addition to serving time for a 2016 robbery in Contra Costa County, Cowell had prior arrests in Alameda County, as well as warrants out for his arrest, the East Bay Times reported.

Rojas said investigators were trying to determine what led to the attack. They have no information it was racially

motivated, but they are not discarding that as a possible motive, he said.

Cowell is a white man, authorities said. The Wilson sisters are black.

Administration reports nearly 1,200 family reunifications

SAN DIEGO (AP)—The Trump administration said Monday that nearly 1,200 family reunifications have occurred for children 5 and older who were separated at the U.S.-Mexico border, still leaving hundreds to go before this week’s court-imposed deadline.

There have been 1,187 reunifications “or other appropriate discharges” by the Health and Human Services Department’s Office of Refugee Resettlement, which took custody of the children, the Justice Department said in a court filing. It was not immediately clear what “other appropriate discharges” referred to.

The administration has identified 2,551 children 5 and older who have been separated from their families.

U.S. District Judge Dana Sabraw has set a deadline of Thursday for the government to reunite all older children with their parents. He set an earlier deadline for dozens of children under 5.

More than 1,600 adults were believed eligible for reunification, including 217 who have been released by immigration authorities into

the United States, according to the filing. More than 500 were vetted and awaiting transportation.

More than 900 were “not eligible, or not yet known to be eligible,” many of them undergoing vetting.

The administration was still working to develop a list of how many adults have been deported.

Sabraw has ordered frequent updates as the deadline nears. The administration and the American Civil Liberties Union, which represents the families, are due in court Tuesday for the seventh time this month to discuss the status.

Last week, the judge temporarily halted deportations of families to give the government time to respond to the ACLU’s request that parents have a week to decide if they want to seek asylum after they rejoin their children.

The government’s response was due by Monday morning. But the two sides asked for a one-day extension as they sought to iron out differences, potentially setting the stage for the halt to be lifted.

Shooting victims outraged over MGM's lawsuit against them

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. (AP)—Victims of a mass shooting at a Las Vegas country music festival said Monday they were outraged when they learned they were being sued by the company that owns the hotel where the gunman opened fire.

Jason McMillan, a 36-year-old Riverside County sheriff’s deputy who was shot and paralyzed, said he can’t believe MGM officials would try to foist blame onto anyone but themselves.

“I just can’t believe the audacity,” McMillan said at a press conference in Southern California where survivors, victims’ relatives and attorneys railed against the decision to file lawsuits against hundreds of victims.

“I’m not just a victim from the concert. I’m a survivor, and they’re not going to get

away with anything. We’ll keep this going as long as it takes,” McMillan said.

MGM Resorts International sued victims in at least seven states last week in a bid to get federal courts to declare the company has no liability for the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history.

In October, high-stakes gambler Stephen Paddock killed 58 people and injured hundreds at the festival by firing onto the crowd from his room at the Mandalay Bay casino-resort in Las Vegas. Paddock then killed himself.

MGM’s lawsuits—which target victims who have threatened to sue or who have sued the company and voluntarily dismissed their claims—argue that that the shooting qualifies as an act of terrorism and that federally certified security services were used at the concert venue, which is also

owned by MGM.

After 9/11, the U.S. enacted a law giving companies a way to limit their liability if their federally certified products or services failed to prevent a terror attack.

The company’s decision to file the lawsuits stoked a public outcry. On Monday, MGM Resorts spokeswoman Debra DeShong said the company has faced dozens of lawsuits in multiple jurisdictions and resolving each case on its own would take years.

“We believe Congress determined these cases should be in federal court and that getting everyone in the same court is the best and fastest way to resolve these cases,” she said.

McMillan said he felt helpless at the concert when he fell to the ground and couldn’t feel his legs. His girlfriend helped drag his body over a fence and

others helped load him onto the back of a pickup truck where he lay staring at the night sky, struggling to breathe, while the driver plowed over curbs and through bushes to rush him and other victims to the hospital.

When he woke, doctors told him he had a bullet in his spine. He was afraid his 4- and 7-year-old daughters would look at him differently in a wheelchair. He was afraid of what they might miss out on, he said, because of him.

It was insulting to learn he was being sued by MGM at the same time he was struggling to rebuild his life, McMillan said. And it brought him right back to feeling helpless again.

“It enrages me to think that this company can just try to skip out on their responsibilities and their liability for what happened,” he said.

Asia

Row delays Duterte speech, rebel deal; Arroyo named speaker

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A leadership row in the Philippine House of Representatives delayed President Rodrigo Duterte's delivery of his annual state of the nation address and passage of crucial Muslim autonomy legislation aimed at ending one of Asia's longest Islamic rebellions.

As Duterte arrived Monday afternoon on a helicopter in the heavily secured congressional complex, Rep. Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, backed by dozens of allied legislators, took the main seat in the center stage of the House's plenary hall in a sign that she was taking over the post of House Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez.

Arroyo, a former president, tried to speak from the stage during the dramatic standoff that played out live on television, but her microphone was turned off. She tried to yell, apparently to explain what was happening, but later stepped down from the stage, waving at the crowd.

Alvarez, along with Senate President Vicente Sotto III, fetched Duterte and led the visibly confused leader to a holding room as the dispute over House leadership unfolded in the chamber, which was packed with foreign diplomats, legislators and other dignitaries. Alvarez and Arroyo are close Duterte supporters in the 292-member House, which is largely dominated by the president's allies.

"They chose to disrespect their own president and attend to their own ambitions in full view of the nation. For almost



AP
Government representative and former president Gloria Macapagal Arroyo shouts from the center stage at the House of Representatives in Quezon city, Manila, Philippines Monday, July 23, 2018.

an hour, it seemed that nobody was in control," opposition Sen. Risa Hontiveros said.

"This is the true state of the nation. It is petty infighting, backstabbing, and brinkmanship, all done at the people's expense," Hontiveros said.

Others called the squabble a "circus" that bared a deep crack in Duterte's ruling coalition. An arrangement was later reached allowing Alvarez to lead the joint session with Sotto to break the impasse, which delayed the president's speech for more than an hour.

Backed by nearly 200 legislators, Arroyo was sworn in late Monday as the new House speaker in an impressive political comeback. The 71-year-old ex-economics professor and classmate of former U.S. President Bill Clinton at Georgetown University was

detained in a hospital in 2012 for nearly four years for alleged large-scale corruption but the Supreme Court dismissed the case and ordered her freed.

The leadership row earlier prevented the House from ratifying a Muslim autonomy bill that was part of a peace deal with the 11,000-strong Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

Earlier Monday, the Senate unanimously ratified the bill, which would establish a new Bangsamoro autonomous region in the country's south, but House members adjourned early due to the infighting. The government had negotiated the pact for more than two decades with the largest Muslim insurgent group in the south.

Duterte had been expected to sign the autonomy bill into law and highlight it in his state of the nation speech. The

peace deal, which he promised to sign within 48 hours, is a bright spot in his two-year presidency, which has come under heavy criticism over his human rights record, deadly anti-drug crackdown and vulgar language.

"I make the solemn commitment that this administration will never deny our Muslim brothers and sisters the basic legal tools to charter their own destiny within the constitutional framework of our country," Duterte said.

Thousands of flag-waving protesters rallied outside the House and burned his effigy. They condemned him for the drug killings and for failing to ease poverty and inflation.

There was no immediate reaction from the Muslim rebels over the latest delay in achieving the Malaysian-brokered

peace deal, which seeks to replace an earlier poverty- and conflict-racked autonomous region with a potentially larger, better-funded and more powerful region for minority Muslims in the south of the largely Roman Catholic nation.

The proposed deal is the latest significant attempt by the government to negotiate an end to nearly half a century of on-and-off Muslim fighting that has left more than 120,000 people dead and hampered development in the country's poorest regions.

The two largest Muslim rebel groups in the south have dropped their demands for a separate Muslim state in exchange for autonomy and have renounced terrorism. Western governments, however, have worried about the presence of small numbers

of Islamic State group-linked militants from the Middle East and Southeast Asia seeking combat training and collaboration with Filipino insurgents.

Last year, heavily armed Filipino insurgents who have sworn allegiance to the Islamic State group, along with dozens of foreign fighters, laid siege to the southern Islamic city of Marawi. Troops backed by U.S. and Australian surveillance aircraft routed the militants after five months of airstrikes and ground assaults that left more than 1,200 people, mostly Islamic fighters, dead and the mosque-studded city in ruins.

Aside from the Muslim autonomy pact, Duterte reaffirmed his resolve to fight illegal drugs and introduced a draft constitution that would shift the country to a federal system of governance. The moves, including opening the country's 1987 constitution to amendment, have been opposed by several groups and opposition politicians, who fear they are designed to prolong Duterte's rule and give him dictatorial powers.

Duterte, who took office in 2016, has played down such fears, saying he was ready to step down as early as next year and cut short his six-year term if a new federal government is set in place.

"I have no illusions of occupying this office one day longer than what the constitution under which I was elected permits or under whatever constitution there might be," Duterte said.

US group: North Korea dismantling key launch site facilities

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—A U.S. research group says North Korea has started dismantling key facilities at its main satellite launch site in what appears to be a step toward fulfilling a commitment made by leader Kim Jong Un at his summit with President Donald Trump in June.

An official from South Korea's presidential office on Tuesday said Seoul has also been detecting dismantlement activities at North Korea's Sohae launch site but did not specify. While the official said such moves could have a "positive effect" on the North's denuclearization, analysts say such steps wouldn't reduce North Korea's military capabilities unless the country dismantles the whole site.

The North Korea-focused 38 North website said recent satellite images indicate the North began dismantling key facilities at the site, includ-

ing a rocket engine test stand and a rail-mounted processing building where space launch vehicles were assembled before being moved to the launch pad.

"Since these facilities are believed to have played an important role in the development of technologies for the North's intercontinental ballistic missile program, these efforts represent a significant confidence building measure on the part of North Korea," analyst Joseph Bermudez wrote in the report.

Lee Choon Geun, a missile expert at South Korea's Science and Technology Policy Institute, said the North is giving up little in dismantling the rocket engine test site when it seems clear the country is satisfied with the current design of long-range weapons. However, Lee said that the supposed move to dismantle the rail-mounted processing building was more

notable as it potentially indicated to broader dismantlement activities at the site.

"If North Korea goes further and dismantle the entire Sohae site, that would meaningfully reduce the country's long-range missile capability by eliminating a facility where it could fire multiple ICBMs in succession," Lee said. "The North can also fire ICBMs from transporter erector launchers, but their technology with these vehicles isn't stable."

The South Korean presidential official, who didn't want to be named, citing office rules, said the supposed dismantlement activities shows the North is moving gradually.

"We need further analysis to figure out why the North didn't turn the dismantlement activities into an event and whether the country is trying to control the speed of the process to maintain a pace it wants," he said.

UN urges Myanmar to create conditions for Rohingya return

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The U.N. Security Council urged Myanmar's government on Monday to step up efforts to create conditions that will allow Rohingya Muslims who fled a violent crackdown to safely return to the country from neighboring Bangladesh.

The council stressed in a statement following closed briefings that progress is also needed by Myanmar on implementing agreements on relations with the U.N. refugee and development agencies and with Bangladesh on returning Rohingya.

Rohingya face official and social discrimination in predominantly Buddhist Myanmar, which denies most of them citizenship and basic rights because they are looked on as immigrants from Bangladesh, even though the families of many settled in Myanmar generations ago. Dire conditions led more than

200,000 to flee the country between 2012 and 2015.

The latest crisis began with attacks by Rohingya insurgents on Myanmar security personnel last August. The military responded with counterinsurgency sweeps and was accused of widespread human rights violations, including rape, murder, torture and the burning of Rohingya homes. Thousands are believed to have died and about 700,000 fled to Bangladesh. The U.N. and U.S. officials have called the government's military campaign ethnic cleansing.

Security Council members again stressed "the importance of undertaking transparent and independent investigations in allegations of human rights abuses and violations."

The new U.N. special envoy for Myanmar, Christine Schraner Burgener, said Myanmar's leaders want to bring Rohing-

ya back to Rakhine state, but there are not only divisions between the government and Rohingya, but divisions between that Muslim minority and the rest of Rakhine's mostly Buddhist population.

The council "stressed the need to step up efforts, including through providing assistance to the social and economic development, in order to create conditions conducive to the safe, voluntary and dignified return of Rohingya refugees and internally displaced persons to their homes in Rakhine state."

Burgener, who started the job two months ago, said she has traveled widely, met government officials including State Counselor Aung San Suu Kyi three times and has gotten approval to open a small office in Myanmar's capital, Naypyitaw. She said she plans to return to Myanmar in September.

World

Family says suspect in Toronto shooting had mental problems

TORONTO (AP)—A man whose family said he suffered from psychosis and depression fired a handgun into restaurants and cafes in a lively Toronto neighborhood, killing a 10-year-old girl and an 18-year-old woman and wounding 13 others in an attack that has shaken the confidence of many in the normally safe city.

Authorities on Monday evening identified the suspect as Faisal Hussain, 29, of Toronto, who died in an exchange of gunfire with police. It was not immediately clear whether he killed himself or was killed by police.

The mass shooting in Toronto's Greektown district Sunday night came just three months after a van struck and killed 10 people in an apparent attack directed at women.

A statement from the family of Hussain said their son had severe mental health challenges, having struggled with psychosis and depression. They said medications did not help him and the interventions of professionals were unsuccessful.

"While we did our best to seek help for him throughout his life of struggle and pain, we could never imagine that this would be his devastating and destructive end," the Hussain family said.

"Our hearts are in pieces for the victims and for our city as we all come to grips with this terrible tragedy. We will mourn those who were lost for the rest



Police are photographed at the perimeter of the scene of a mass shooting in Toronto on Monday, July 23, 2018.

AP

of our lives."

Police Chief Mark Saunders earlier said he would not speculate on a motive but did not rule out terrorism.

"It's almost inconceivable that these things can happen," said Mayor John Tory. "We were so used to living in a city where these things didn't happen and as we saw them going on in the world around us (we) thought they couldn't happen

here."

"This is an attack against innocent families and our entire city."

The slain 18-year-old was identified as Reese Fallon, a recent high school graduate who volunteered for Canada's Liberal party and was due to attend McMaster University in the fall. Her family said in a statement they were devastated.

"She was ... smart, passionate

and full of energy. It is a huge loss," said Canadian Member of Parliament Nathaniel Erskine-Smith, who knew Fallon.

Flags at Toronto City Hall as well as at Fallon's former high school, Malvern CI, were lowered to half-staff.

"An engaging student, Reese Fallon graduated from Malvern CI just last month and was highly regarded by staff and loved by her friends," the school

board said in a statement, adding that support was being offered to students.

The 13 wounded ranged in age from 10 to 59, and suffered injuries ranging from serious to minor, Saunders said. He did not name the victims, who included eight

women and girls, and seven men.

Dr. Najma Ahmed of St. Michael's Hospital said five patients had been admitted in serious or critical condition and that three of the five underwent immediate lifesaving operations.

Life in Haiti was getting worse for many before latest riots

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—Chicken is a staple of the Haitian diet but its price has doubled in four years. Cooking oil and rice have gone up 10 percent the last 12 months. A liter of milk costs more than half the daily minimum wage, putting it out of reach for most of the country.

The cost of living seems like it is spiraling out of control to many Haitians, making life even more of a struggle in the Western Hemisphere's poorest nation.

"It's really hard," Cassandre Milord, an accountant in a small shop in Haiti's capital, said of the inflation that has been in double digits since 2014. "You never know how much money you need to go to the market. The prices go up every day."

It's a nearly universal complaint across Haiti, and it lies at the root of the four days of deadly protests over steep fuel price hikes that shut down Port-au-Prince earlier this month and raised the specter of the mass unrest that has paralyzed the

country in the past. Inflation is a fact of life in much of the world, but amid so much misery it resonates painfully here with everyone from people selling small bags of rice in the street to owners of small businesses—everyone except the tiny elite.

"There's no money to send the kids to school," Arceline Charles said as she sat in a crowded downtown street selling eggs from a cardboard tray. "The country is a complete disaster."

The government of President Jovenel Moise, who took office in February 2017 after a messy, contested election, set off protests when it abruptly announced double-digit increases in the prices for gasoline, diesel and kerosene. It was part of an agreement with the International Monetary Fund to eliminate fuel subsidies, to boost government revenue, in exchange for more support from member nations.

Officials may have thought the public would be distracted by that day's World Cup match

featuring local favorite Brazil, but the reaction was explosive: People flooded into the streets, erecting flaming barricades and clashing with police. At least seven people died and dozens of businesses and cars were looted, burned and destroyed.

Prime Minister Jack Guy Lafontant, facing a no-confidence vote in parliament, resigned along with his Cabinet. But the government has yet to explain why it failed to accept the IMF recommendation to enact the price hikes gradually or whether it still intends to comply with recommendations that it modernize its economy by improving tax collection and increase spending on infrastructure, education and social services.

Moise appealed for calm as he looks for a new prime minister. "I can understand the situation facing many of our unemployed compatriots. Hunger and misery are crushing us," he said in a national address in Creole, the French-based language spoken by the majority of Haitians.

WORLD BRIEFS

8 killed in raid on drug kingpin in Lebanon

BEIRUT (AP)—Lebanon's army says eight people have been killed and 41 others arrested in a raid in Brital, in eastern Lebanon, to arrest a well-known drug dealer. The army said Ali Zeid Ismael was wanted on dozens of arrest warrants including drug running, kidnapping, and murder. An army officer said it was not clear if Ismael was killed in the Monday raid. The official said Ismael was not arrested. He requested anonymity because he wasn't authorized to speak to the media. Brital is well-known for its trade in drugs and smuggling with Syria. Lebanon's parliament speaker, Nabih Berri, said his office is considering whether to legalize hashish to raise tax revenue for the country. The crop is farmed intensively in Lebanon's eastern Bekaa Valley region.

EU seeks solution to Italy's concerns over migrant mission

BERLIN (AP)—Italy's foreign minister says Rome will allow migrants rescued by a European Union naval operation to land over the coming weeks while EU nations figure out how to divide up new arrivals. Italy has launched a crackdown on migration and is seeking to renegotiate Operation Sophia's mandate to prevent rescued migrants from being brought exclusively to Italy. Sophia's commander recently ordered participating ships to return to port, but on Monday German officials said a German ship participating in the operation had put out to sea again. German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas said Monday that, over the next five weeks, EU countries will discuss how people rescued can be distributed in Europe. His Italian counterpart Enzo Moavero Milanesi said that, in the meantime, Italy will allow rescued migrants to disembark there.

UN envoy gauges chances

for Cyprus peace talks resumption

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP)—A United Nations envoy has sounded out the rival leaders of ethnically divided Cyprus to see whether conditions are ripe for a resumption of reunification talks. Jane Holl Lute met separately Monday with Cyprus' Greek Cypriot President Nicos Anastasiades and the leader of the breakaway Turkish Cypriots Mustafa Akinci. No statements were made after either meeting. Anastasiades and Akinci have both said publicly that they're ready to re-engage more than a year after the most recent round of negotiations collapsed, but differences remain. Anastasiades wants Turkey to pull its troops out of the breakaway north and to eliminate any intervention rights from an accord. Akinci wants Turkish Cypriots to share power equally with the majority Greek Cypriots in an envisioned federation and a time limit to negotiations.

Good Housekeeping

ON GARDENING: Sombrero coneflowers ablaze in dazzling colors

By NORMAN WINTER
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Something wonderful has happened in the world of purple coneflowers and that is science to the point it would probably even impress an astrophysicist. The science here, however, is with the selections, the breeding, crosses, and backcrosses, stuff that makes a rusty horticulturist like myself amazed and a little envious that I wasn't part of the project.

The result is our native coneflower species have simply gotten better; more colors, flowers, and habits to include in your garden. Your designs will be more intriguing, colorful and all the while bringing in so many pollinators it will appear it was specifically done at their behest.

It was just a few years ago that I wrote about the Sombbrero series that was developed by Darwin Perennials a Ball Horticultural Company. At the time I raved about Sombrero

Hot Coral part of a series of four. Today there are a dozen colors and if you ever get to see a garden center or nursery growing all of them, you will not only want one of each, but you will lose all rationale and want the whole inventory.

I thought Sombrero Hot Coral was my favorite but the orange selections like Sombrero Adobe Orange and Sombrero Flamenco Orange have a color that I just can't pass up. Partnered with blue, like the new Mysty salvia or even the soft blue of Russian sage creates a partnership that I just can't have enough.

Terra Nova Nurseries another innovative leader in perennial plant breeding introduced us all to the Prima series this year. Prima comes in Cinnamon, Ruby and an artistic designer looking Ginger. Though compact in habit the flower quantity is most impressive. I loved watching bees in what seemed to be a pollen ecstasy.

TNS
Coneflowers now offer an array of colors for the garden.

Early spring is still my favorite time to plant purple coneflowers. Select healthy growing transplants not yet in flower, these are the ones that are still producing roots and green leaves. But to be honest the industry has changed offering us healthy blooming, vibrant transplants all season.

Last fall when I was at the Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens in Savannah we had the opportunity to plant these blooming echinaceas in September. As crazy and as scientifically wrong that it felt, I can truthfully say it worked and they were great, go figure. So, should you live in an area that has a nursery offering fresh blooming coneflowers in early September, don't be afraid, you have not lost your mind.

Whenever you decide to plant choose a site in full sun for best flower performance. The soil need not be luxuriantly fertile, on the other hand, if it takes a pickaxe or jackhammer to break apart plan on incorporating 3 to 4 inches of organic matter. While tilling go ahead and work in two pounds of a slow release 12-6-6 fertilizer per 100 square feet of bed space. Space your plants 8 to 14-inches apart in an informal drift or sweep. If you have the mucky soil consider planting on raised beds using a prepared landscape mix.

Your partnership opportunities with these new echinaceas are unlimited. Some of the prettiest beds I've seen this year had them partnered with multi-colored coreopsis and blue salvias. You'll love them in informal sweeps or drifts with rudbeckias or glorious daisies like Prairie Sun or Indian Summer. They also look so natural in a prairie-like companion with ornamental grasses swaying in the breeze.

Purple coneflowers still come in purple and they will always be recommended. Keep your eyes open however for the new multicolored Sombrero and Prima series as well as Cheyenne Spirit an All-America Selections Winner from 2013.

TNS
Prima Ruby coneflower looks dazzling in the planting with coreopsis and salvias.



TNS
This bumble bee is in a state of pollen bliss on Sombrero Adobe Orange coneflower.



IN CELEBRATION OF HER NEW LIFE

†Maria Basa Sablan

“Lia / Nang Lia”

Born to Life: June 11, 1934 - Called to Eternal Home: July 17, 2018

In her new life, she now joins her

Parents: †Jose Concepcion Basa
†Dolores Blas Basa
†Juan Ogo Sablan
†Rita Santos Sablan

Parents-in-law: †Manuel Santos Sablan
†Consolacion B. Rupp
†Francisca Basa
†Gregorio Basa
†Bernadita B. Mendiola
†Julian Basa

Husband: †Manuel Santos Sablan

Children: †Francisca Basa
†Gregorio Basa
†Bernadita B. Mendiola
†Julian Basa

Grandchildren: †Edna S. Sabang
†Maria Rupp
†Marcus Read
†Jesus C. Reyes
†Deric Tenorio
†Gregorio B. Basa
†Margarita B. Villanueva
†Felisa CH. Basa
†Joaquin P. Villanueva
†Maria S. Cabrera
†Margarita S. Sablan
†Bartola S. Basa
†Frank Rran
†Clemente S. Sablan

Great-grandchildren: †Deric Tenorio

Siblings: †Gregorio B. Basa

In-laws: †Margarita S. Sablan

She will live forever in the hearts of her

Children & Family: Frankie and Dianne Basa (Frankie, Jr., Brenda, Berna)
Dorothy B. and Larry Read (Tanya, Jesse, Lloyd)
†Consolacion B. Rupp (Remy, †Edna, Jason, †Maria)
†Francisca Basa and Jesus Reyes (Jason, Jesse, Jerry, Jeremy, Ignacia, Patrick, James, Jessielyn, Josh)
†Gregorio Basa
Juan and Annie Basa (Nanette, Mimi, April, Valine, Kevin)
†Bernadita B. and Donald Mendiola (Martha, Elena, Donald, Steven)
Patricia B. and Richard Fetzer (Joseph, Patrick, Vincent)
Nora B. and Antonio Bornilla (Jonathan, Amanda, Ashley, Antonio II)
†Julian Basa
Joseph and Danielle Basa (Dominick, Alicia, Gabriella, Zaidan, Evan)
Michael and Wendy Basa (Madline, Marlene, Timothy, Noelle, Marvin)

Siblings: Theresita B. and Leo O. Pertudo
Jose B. Basa

In-Laws: Manuel T. Cabrera
Patricia Rran
Charlene N. Sablan
Robert Mosqueti

She will be dearly missed by numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.



Daily mass is being offered at 6:00 pm at San Roque Church.

Funeral Service will be held on Friday, July 27, 2018. Our beloved †Maria will be escorted from Borja Funeral Home to Mount Carmel Cathedral at 7:30 am. Responso Service, Holy Rosary, and Public Viewing will follow upon arrival. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 am followed by Interment Services at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery where she will be laid to peaceful rest.

Your prayers and thoughts are greatly appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase – Oloomwaay – Thank You

The Family



Life & Style

Husband of adult film performer Stormy Daniels seeks divorce

KAUFMAN, Texas (AP)—The husband of adult film performer Stormy Daniels has filed for divorce in Texas.

Daniels, whose real name is Stephanie Clifford, has said that she had sex with Don-

ald Trump before he became president, something Trump has denied.

Glendon Crain filed the petition for divorce on July 18 in state district court in Kaufman County, located just south-

east of Dallas. In his 13-page divorce petition filed July 18, Crain alleged adultery as grounds for the divorce and seeks sole custody of the couple's 7-year-old daughter and child support from Clifford, as

well as a financial award and disproportionate share of the couple's community property.

Daniels' lawyer Michael Avenatti said in a tweet that Daniels and Crain decided mutually to end their marriage

and that the "accuracy" of the divorce petition is "vehemently disputed."

A woman answering the phone in the Terrell, Texas, office of Crain's attorney, Rothwell Pool, said Daniels



investigators were seeking records about the nondisclosure agreement that Daniels had signed, among other things.

In May, Rudy Giuliani, one of Trump's attorneys, said the president had

repaid Cohen for the \$130,000 payment to Daniels, contradicting Trump's prior claims that he didn't know the source of the money.

Transparency groups and Democrats have argued that the secret efforts to silence Trump accusers, including the payment to Daniels, should be investigated by the Federal Election Commission as potential violations of campaign finance laws, which require disclosure of campaign expenditures.

Trump's attorneys have argued that any payments to accusers would have been made regardless of his presidential candidacy, and that no violation occurred.

In April, FBI agents raided Cohen's home, office and hotel room as part of a probe into his business dealings and

Philadelphia State of Mind: Jay-Z's festival is staying put

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Who's gonna run this town tonight? Jay-Z is.

The rap mogul's Made in America music festival will stay in the heart of Philadelphia after Mayor Jim Kenney reversed course on his decision to move the event.

Kenney and Roc Nation's chief operating officer said Monday the festival would remain on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway as they work out operational issues.

"We think it's a very important event for the city," Kenney told reporters at City Hall. "We think it's important for our profile, for our tourism and we want to make it work."

Earlier, he said in a statement that the event belonged in Philadelphia—"the birthplace of our country"—and he was "optimistic that we can turn an unfortunate misunderstanding into a positive outcome and even stronger event."

The city had said last week the annual festival would need to move to a new location starting in 2019, citing how long it takes to set up and knock down the two-day festival.

"It was overload with the folks out there, because we had the NFL draft, we have



Jay-Z

the Fourth of July thing, we have Made in America and there are events out there—there's runs out there all the time—and those people just get a little fatigued. But we'll figure out how to address those problems," Kenney said.

Jay-Z, whose hits include "Run This Town," had accused the mayor of showing "zero appreciation" for what the festival had done for Philadelphia.

Made in America draws up to 50,000 people annually to the parkway, a heavily visited

expanse of museums, monuments, fountains and the famed "Rocky" steps at the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Amid the controversy, Milwaukee officials extended an invitation to Jay-Z to bring the festival there.

Nicki Minaj, Meek Mill and Post Malone are set to perform this year in Philadelphia.

"We are happy to announce the Made in America festival will continue at the heart of the Philadelphia, the Benjamin Franklin Parkway for many years to come," Desiree Perez, chief operating officer of Roc Nation, said in a joint statement with the mayor.

5 of the biggest takeaways from Comic-Con 2018

LOS ANGELES (AP)—San Diego Comic-Con 2018 ended Sunday as workers stripped the branding off the buildings, windows, buses, elevators, escalators and every other square inch of open space in the city's Gaslamp District. Weary attendees squeezed in one last thing before heading home with bags of merchandise, sore feet, some sunburns and fewer dollars in their bank accounts.

The four-day comic book convention attracts some 130,000 souls every year who come for the swag, the parties, the exclusives, the stars and the wild experience of being with like-minded, and often costumed, pop culture fanatics. It has the potential to be the epicenter of geek culture—and for brands and studios, a valuable litmus test for what might pop and what might fizzle in the years to come.

Here are a few of the biggest takeaways from this year.

THE #METOO FACTOR

After other big gatherings like the Sundance Film Festival and the Cannes Film Festival made overtures to explicitly address harassment issues and detail procedures for how to report, Comic-Con, which has been criticized over the issue in the past, chose to defer to its standing Code of Conduct and partnerships with local law enforcement and private secu-

rity companies. Programming director Eddie Ibrahim didn't use his platform introducing nearly every Hall H panel to mention the topic at all.

For many female attendees, harassment at conventions is nothing new, but some noted an improved atmosphere. "I have seen a difference," said Paige Campbell, a 22-year-old from Chicago. "I have been cosplaying for seven years. It's been getting better, but we still have a long way to go."

Also, after Chris Hardwick stepped down from moderating panels following misconduct allegations (which he has denied), he was replaced in many instances with women, like Yvette Nicole Brown and IGN's Terri Schwartz.

GUNN FIRING UPSTAGES COMIC-CON

There was some news out of Comic-Con—television's first transgender superhero will appear on the CW's "Supergirl" in Nia Nal (played by Nicole Maines), the beloved animated Star Wars series "Clone Wars" is coming back for another season, Andrew Lincoln confirmed his departure from "The Walking Dead" and a Walter White cameo was teased for "Better Call Saul"—but certainly not as much as years past. It didn't help that this year nearly everything was upstaged by



AP
Jason Momoa greets the crowd at the Warner Bros. Theatrical panel for "Aquaman" on day three of Comic-Con International on Saturday, July 21, 2018, in San Diego.

James Gunn, who was fired from writing and directing the third "Guardians of the Galaxy" by the Walt Disney Co. after controversial tweets from a decade ago were resurfaced. It dominated off-stage conversation from attendees and creators.

"It's a tough one, you know," said "Aquaman" director James Wan. "You've got to be mindful. It's just that fine line of freedom of speech on one hand. And on the other hand, you've got to be mindful of things that get out there. I don't know. Where do we sit

today, in the culture and the space—are we going too far one way or are we going too far the other way?"

WARNER BROS. STEALS THE SHOW

Warner Bros. has had some ups and downs with its DC Universe films, but with a clear runway to be the biggest show of the convention with the absence of the Marvel Cinematic Universe, Star Wars or "Game of Thrones," the studio came to Comic-Con ready to fight with "Aquaman," "Shazam!" and some

early footage from "Wonder Woman 1984," which is only three and a half weeks into its shoot. It was easily the best-received presentation of the convention and generated interest for its superhero slate with a notably light-hearted tone, in stark contrast to the DC darkness that has basically become a cliché (and fodder for a "Deadpool 2" meta joke). The studio also for the second year broke out its horror films from New Line into a second event, ScareDiego, held at a more appropriate post-dinner hour to preview films like "It: Chapter Two," which also just started filming, and "The Nun."

A BIGGER PARTY SCENE

For years Entertainment Weekly's starry Saturday night party was the only bash in town, but everyone has been getting into the branded party game this year from Variety to Nerdist luring attendees with promises of star sightings, free drinks, fun sights and photo booths. The WIRED Cafe was a bumping scene every day with a DJ blaring tunes as guests waited in line to see folks like Joe Manganiello and "Riverdale's" Lili Reinhart and Cole Sprouse, National Geographic brought out astronauts on stilts and Neil deGrasse Tyson, while Doug Liman held court at a Variety

and YouTube event. The EW soiree on the Hard Rock rooftop was once again packed to the gills with celebrities of every kind, from "Aquaman's" Jason Momoa to "Sharknado's" Tara Reid. The stars of "The Good Place" could be seen dancing to Nicki Minaj, as Ezra Miller tested out the big branded float in the middle of the pool and the new star of "Doctor Who," Jodie Whittaker, bounced around the party with a big smile on her face.

INESCAPABLE LINES, ESPECIALLY IN TOWN

Comic-Con is infamous for its epic lines to get into Hall H, the 6,500-seat room that hosts the highest profile stars and studios, but for many it was not a problem to breeze into the fabled room. Sure, some still slept overnight in line to ensure the best possible seat, but many reported that it was no problem to get in. Instead, the biggest lines were often to get into the Rotten Tomatoes "Your Opinion Sucks!" live-shows and for the various branded installations and experiences like the "Jack Ryan" Escape Room (3-hour wait), the Laika exhibit with a Neil Gaiman-signing (5-hour wait), or a "Ready Player One" installation (which also had its own escape room and hosted nearly 2,000 people a day).

Taylor Swift gets surprise as 'Fearless' hits diamond status

NEW YORK (AP)—Taylor Swift's sophomore album, which won album of the year at the 2010 Grammys, has been certified diamond.

Big Machine Label Group President and CEO Scott Borchetta surprised the singer after her show Sunday with a plaque for "Fearless" indicating sales and streaming equivalent sales of 10 million units.

Swift actually earned six

World Series of Poker draws more than 123K players in 2018

LAS VEGAS (AP) — The World Series of Poker has set an attendance record for the sixth consecutive year.

Organizers on Monday announced the 50-day poker extravaganza in Las Vegas drew 123,865 players this summer.

The prize pool of the 78-event series at the Rio All-Suite Hotel and Casino was the largest in its 49-year history, amounting to more than \$266 million. That's an increase of more than \$35 million compared to last year.

A record 18,105 participants got a cut of the prize pool. Twenty-eight of them earned at least \$1 million.

The series' marquee no-limit Texas Hold 'em main event saw 7,874 entries, making it the second largest in the series' history.

Indianapolis resident John Cynn won the main event July 15. He took home \$8.8 million and a diamond-encrusted gold bracelet.



AP
Singer Taylor Swift performs during her Reputation tour at MetLife Stadium on Friday, July 20, 2018, in East Rutherford, N.J.

new plaques from the Recording Industry Association of America, including a triple-platinum certification for her latest album, "reputation."

She became the first woman to perform three consecutive shows at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey, when she hit the stage Friday, Saturday and Sunday. She performed in the rain during the last two shows.

With six shows at MetLife, Swift now ties Bruce Springsteen and Bon Jovi for most shows played at the stadium.

R. Kelly sings about troubles in revealing 19-minute song

NEW YORK (AP)—R. Kelly sings about his troubles and battles in a new 19-minute song, addressing sexual abuse claims against him that have put a screeching halt on his career.

The song, "I Admit," was posted to Soundcloud on Monday. The track begins with the lyrics, "I admit I have made some mistakes/And I have some imperfect ways."

R. Kelly gets personal throughout the track, singing that he likes "all the ladies, that's both older and young ladies," following it up with: "But tell me how they call it pedophile because that (expletive) is crazy."

The embattled entertainer has long been accused of behavior that has ranged from questionable to criminal. He was accused of child pornography after a widely circulated

videotape appeared to show him having sex with, and urinating on, a teenage girl. He was acquitted of all charges in 2008 and continued to rack up hits and sell out stadiums around the country.

On "I Admit," he sings that he's "not convicted, not arrested, dragged my name in the dirt/All this work to be successful, when you abandon me 'cause of what you heard."

R. Kelly is one of pop music's best-selling artists and his hits include "Ignition," "I Believe I Can Fly," "Step in the Name of Love" and "Bump N' Grind." He has also written hits for artists ranging from Celine Dion to Michael Jackson to Lady Gaga. While he's written classic love songs and even gospel music, he is defined by sexually explicit songs such as "Feelin' on Yo

Booty," "Your Body's Calling Me," "Sex Me" and even more explicit fare.

In 2002, R. Kelly released a song about his troubles in similar fashion with "Heaven I Need a Hug," a response to his critics at the time. "Media, do your job/But please just don't make my job so hard," he sang on the song.

On the new song, he says he was sexually abused as a child, singing "a family member touched me" and revealing he was "so scared to say something, so I just put the blame on me."

He also says that he does not own his music, that he dropped out of school and that he "couldn't read the teleprompter when the Grammy's asked me to present (an award)."

"I Admit" was not released on Sony's RCA Records,

where R. Kelly is signed. The label said it had no comment about the song. R. Kelly posted a link to the song Monday with the caption: "Today is the day you've been waiting for."

Despite having a plethora of hit songs, he says he had to borrow money from his record label to "put food on the table."

"I was told I had to sell my cars, I was told I couldn't get a loan/Said I owed 20 million to the IRS and they were coming to get my home," he sings.

In April, R. Kelly's concert in his hometown of Chicago was canceled around the time the Times' Up campaign took aim at the singer over allegations he sexually abused women. Weeks later, Spotify removed his music from its playlists, citing its new policy on hate content

and hateful conduct.

"Now the truth in this message is I'm a broke (expletive) legend/The only reason I stay on tour is 'cause I gotta pay my rent," he sings on the new track.

In May, a woman filed a lawsuit against R. Kelly, accusing the singer of sexual battery, knowingly infecting her with herpes and locking her in rooms for punishment.

"They're brainwashed, really?/Kidnapped, really?/Can't eat, really?/Real talk, that (expletive) sound silly," he sings.

R. Kelly says in the song he had a recent conversation with talk show host Wendy Williams, who asked him about the late singer Aaliyah, who was 15 when she married a 27-year-old R. Kelly in 1994. The marriage was later annulled.

Photo of naked stepsister is no longer a laughing matter

DEAR ABBY: I don't like my stepsister, and when she stays with us, I'm forced to share a room with her. The last time she was here I got so mad at her I pretended to send a text message on my cell and secretly took a picture of her as she got out of the shower. I knew it was wrong, but it seemed funny at the time.

I sent it to my boyfriend because he doesn't like her either, even though he thinks she has a "hot body." I thought it would be a joke just between us, but he sent it to some of his friends, and now it's making the rounds. Luckily, she goes to a different school, so nobody has recognized her, but I'm scared someone will. I'd give anything to take back what I did. What should I do?

SCARED STEPSISTER

DEAR SCARED STEPSISTER: You should be scared. What you did was shameful and dangerous. Not only was it an invasion of privacy, it is also a crime — distribution of a pornographic image of a minor. Now that photo is on the internet, you will not be able to take it back.

Pray that no one in your family finds out, or you may be grounded, like, forever, and your boyfriend will be history. If the news does get back to your family, prepare yourself for a punishment like no other.

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for 20 years and recently

had an affair with a woman I'll call "Susan" I care very much about. My marriage was already in the final stages of failure by the time we met.

Over the last two weeks, I stayed at Susan's house on the nights I worked. Two days ago, without telling me, she went to talk to my wife to "get her side of the story." She believed everything my wife said and broke up with me. Susan has now blocked my phone number and told me to leave her alone.

Is it worth trying to reach out to her? Susan knew when I met her that I was married and continued seeing me. I told her the wife and I were separating but living in the same house until the lease ends. She thinks I lied to her, which I never did. I was always honest with her. What do you think happened?

DUMPED IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR DUMPED: It appears that your side of the story wasn't enough for Susan. She identified with whatever she was told and accepted it lock, stock and barrel. Because she wasn't mature enough to discuss it with you, she decided to cut and run instead.

Lesson for you: Move out before you start dating again. It's not going to be forever—just until the lease ends.

DEAR ABBY: My desk is situated right outside my boss's office. Her elderly father is in failing health, and while I'm not unsympathetic, each day for 30 to 40 minutes she takes per-

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

sonal phone calls with his daytime caregiver. The calls are always on her speakerphone with her office door wide open. I'm in a cubicle, so I have no door to close. Is there a polite way to encourage her to rectify this?

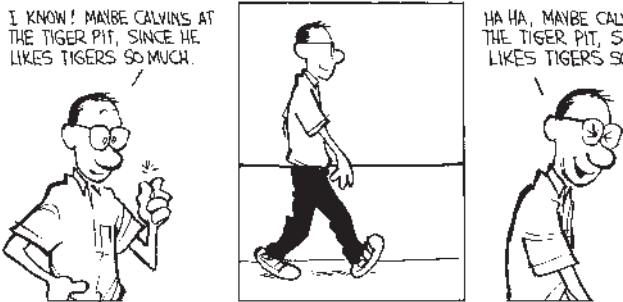
NOT DEAF IN SEATTLE

DEAR NOT DEAF: Yes. As tactfully as you can, ask your boss if she would mind if YOU close her door for the duration of those conversations because they distract you from doing your work.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

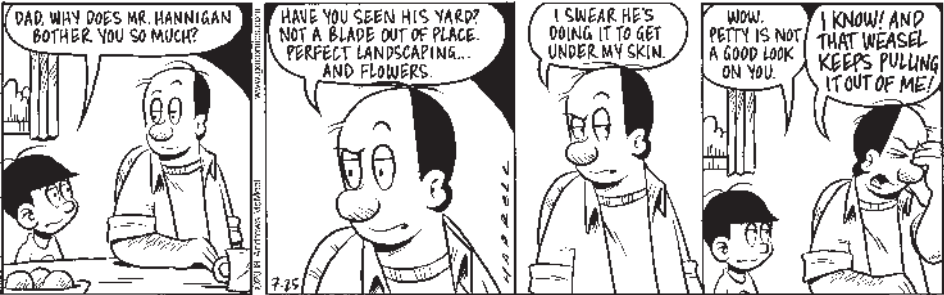
Calvin and Hobbes



Garfield®



Adam@home



The Duplex



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

43 Old U.S. gas brand

44 Trench

46 Postage

50 Golf course

55 Series of battles

56 Activist

57 Swizzle

58 Yalie

59 "Closer"

DOWN

1 Section

2 Humdrum

3 Big rig

4 Come clean

5 Blackbird

6 Bad

7 Wan

8 Browbeat

9 The whole

10 Baton Rouge

11 "Terrifi"

17 — Aviv

19 Flow out

22 Protracted

23 Fred's

24 Barn areas

28 Bar mixer

32 Source

33 — Lingus

34 Mortimer the dummy

36 "— tree falls ..."

37 Endure

39 School choral group

41 Charlatan

25 Thwart

26 Bean curd

27 Wild guess

28 Young whale

29 Tragic king

30 — Major

31 War god

35 Feast finale

38 Sikh

40 Camp bed

42 "Gee, ya think?"

45 Pitch

47 Dumb-struck

48 Algeria's neighbor

49 Bluenose

50 —

51 Despondent

52 Work with

53 Salt Lake athlete

54 Go astray

Solution time: 23 mins.

Yesterday's answer 7-25

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: James Lafferty, 33; D.B. Woodside, 49; Matt LeBlanc, 51; Illeana Douglas, 53.

Happy Birthday: Make adjustments to the way you handle money to ensure greater gains and savings in the future. Taking charge of the way you earn your living and how you invest will help you avoid unnecessary debt. Live within your means; you will begin to reap the rewards later this year. Give back to your community; you will encounter new beginnings. Your numbers are 3, 16, 23, 26, 30, 38, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You'll need stamina and patience when dealing with colleagues and authority figures. Listen carefully, but don't make hasty decisions without doing your homework. Acting on a premature assumption will be costly emotionally, financially or legally. Slow down and think matters through.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You'll be enticed by change but reluctant to make a mistake. The stress that goes along with uncertainty can lead to anger if you are too quick or too late. Look at the big picture and do what's realistic.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Ask an expert, learn all you can and consider every angle before you make a move. Verify what you hear before you do anything. Ulterior motives are apparent if someone can benefit by swaying your opinion. Do what feels right.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Your imagination will serve you well when you are faced with challenges that can alter your reputation or position. Coming up with alternative means and methods to help move forward will pay off. A positive change is heading your way.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Living in the moment can be fun, but before you let your carefree attitude take over, consider the consequences. Stick to a budget and pay close attention to what your associates are doing. Protect your reputation and your property.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't look for a reason why not to do something when you should be embracing what life has to offer. Change can be exactly what's needed to motivate you to try something new. A modification to your lifestyle will be revitalizing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Size up what others are doing, and take care of your own interests. Put your energy and thought into reaching your goals instead of worrying about what others think or do. An emotional incident will turn in your favor.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't challenge someone else when it's you who needs to be challenged in order to take stock and get moving in a positive direction. Let your intuition lead to bigger and better opportunities. Pour your energy into achievement, not anger.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Walk away if you think someone is using you. Saying no will send a message that will help you avoid being stuck with responsibilities that don't belong to you. Take action when it comes to personal finances and protecting your assets.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Discipline will pay off. If you want something, pursue it and don't give up until you get what you want. Your persistence will pay off, giving you a better chance to do your own thing. Make special plans with someone you love.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Put your heart and soul into achieving your goal. Refuse to let anyone lead you astray or waste your time with lofty ideas or excessive partying. Keep your mind clear, and focus on what you are trying to accomplish.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Make room for something new. Don't let an opportunity get away from you. Call in favors or discuss possible changes that will give you free rein to explore your options. A partnership will change the way you move forward.

Birthday Baby: You are assertive, enthusiastic and playful. You are intelligent and outgoing.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit EugeniaLast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Difficulty Level ★★★

Yesterday's Answer

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

BLOOD DONORS

Solution: 5 letters

©2012 Andrews McMeel Syndication www.wonderword.com 7/25

Apheresis, Apply, Autologous, Blood Pressure, Bone Marrow, Clinic, Clot, Collect, Eligibility, Fees, Forearm, Health, Hematocrit, Hour, Iron, Life, Needles, Plasma, Platelet, Pulse, Pumped, Red Cells, Research, RH Factor, Room, Safe, Saving, Screen, Service, Supply, Test, Time, Transfusions, Type, Vein, Visit, Volunteer, Weight, White, Whole

Yesterday's Answer: Arrival

Treasures 13 through 29 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS



PLACE YOUR ADVERT HERE

For opportunities contact us at 235-6397

Margarita Muña/Ilene Muña
P.O. Box 5736 CHRB
(670) 285-7727/483-5411

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE)
GUARDIANSHIP OF) FCD GU
Alicia Naputi Muña) CIVIL ACTION
An Incompetent) NO. 18-0280
By)
Margarita N. Muña) NOTICE OF
Ilene M.N. Muña) HEARING
Petitioner)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petitioner for Appointment of Guardianship for the above-named by Margarita N. Muña/Ilene M.N. Muña Petitioner, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court and is open for review at the office of the Clerk of the said Court in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A HEARING of said petition for Guardianship will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at the CNMI Judiciary, before Teresa Kim-Tenorio on the 13th day of August, 2018 at 9 A.M. in Courtroom or as soon as thereafter.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court
By: /s/
Deputy Clerk of Court

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Position: Scuba Diving Instructor (Self-Enrichment Educational Teachers) x1

Work Location: Koblerville, Saipan & other diving sites in the CNMI

Working Hours: Full-time (8hrs/day, 40hrs/week; Flex Time)

Wage: \$53,581.00/yr; frequency= monthly; O.T.= x 1.5

Job Duties: Teach, instruct, and guide scuba diving activities to individuals or groups at public or private facilities. Explains & demonstrates the basic of scuba diving & teaches the proper use of diving equipments. Conduct certification classes to achieve proficiency in diving. Supervise other employees. May assist customers at Employer's outdoor sports retail shop, and do other related duties as assigned.

Requirements: Minimum 5 years of work experience as scuba diving instructor. Must be a PADI or NAUI certified, licensed Scuba Diving Instructor. Must be able to speak, read and write Japanese language enough to teach and instruct scuba diving to tourists and regulars from Japan, that dominate the nationality of the Company's customers.

Compensations: Workers' Compensation & scuba diving instructor insurance provided.

Please send your resume with a copy of your diving instructor license, or your inquiry by e-mail to:
SELFISH SAIPAN, INC. E-mail info@selfish-saipan.com
Phone: (670) 235-7505 (Mami)

WHATZIT Solution: Try this for size

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS (PRINT) COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)

• 3-Liner \$15 \$30

• 5-Liner \$24 \$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper for more news, value and information.

SUBSCRIBING MEANS MORE

Please call 235-NEWS.



WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

THIS THIS THIS SIGH SIGH SIGH SIGH

www.facebook.com/dingbatgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Poncedeleon dazzles in debut but Reds rally past Cards



CINCINNATI (AP)—St. Louis starter

Daniel Poncedeleon made a sensational debut 14 months after suffering a severe head injury, throwing no-hit ball for seven innings Monday night before Eugenio Suarez led the Cincinnati Reds' two-out rally in the ninth for a 2-1 victory over the Cardinals.

Suarez's two-out, solo homer off Bud Norris (3-3) tied it 1-1. The closer then loaded the bases on a pair of singles and a walk, and pinch-hitter Dilon Herrera singled to end the Reds' losing streak at four games. Jared Hughes (3-3) pitched the ninth.

The late rally overshadowed Poncedeleon's incredible comeback.

The 26-year-old right-hander was hit on the right temple by a line drive while pitching for Triple-A Memphis on May 9 last year, fracturing his skull and causing bleeding in the brain. He had emergency surgery followed by months of slow recovery.

Poncedeleon was one of the top pitchers in the Pacific Coast League when St. Louis called him up Monday to help their injury-depleted rotation. He walked three and struck out three, threw 116 pitches and gave way to a pinch-hitter in the eighth with St. Louis up 1-0.

Pirates 7, Indians 0, 6 innings

In Cleveland, Josh Harrison hit a three-run homer and Gregory Polanco had a two-run triple off Corey Kluber in his return, and Pittsburgh beat Cleveland in a six-inning, rain-shortened game for its 10th straight win.

The game was called following three rain delays that totaled 2 hours, 3 minutes. The first pitch was delayed 55 minutes, and a delay of 27 minutes followed in the third inning. The final delay was 41 minutes.

Kluber (12-6), starting for the first time since July 12 because of a sore right knee, was charged with seven runs—three earned—in four innings. The reigning AL Cy Young Award winner gave up nine hits, struck out two and threw 72 pitches.

Rays 7, Yankees 6

In St. Petersburg, Gary Sanchez failed to hustle on a pair of key plays, Jake Bauers hit a three-run homer and scored with some nifty baserunning, and Tampa Bay beat Luis Severino and New York.

The Yankees loaded the bases against Jose Alvarado with one out in the ninth when Brett Gardner singled, Aaron Judge walked and Giancarlo Stanton was intentionally walked. After Aaron Hicks hit



into a force out at the plate, Alvarado got his first save when Sanchez grounded out, a play where Hicks beat the play at second but the Yankees catcher was thrown out at first after jogging most of the way there.

Hicks limped off the field after his slide.

Dodgers 7, Phillies 6

In Philadelphia, Max Muncy, Yasmani Grandal, Chris Taylor and Joc Pederson hit solo homers and Alex Verdugo scored the tiebreaking run on a wild pitch in the top of the ninth inning, lifting Los Angeles over Philadelphia in a matchup of division leaders.

Maikel Franco hit a pair of solo homers and Rhys Hoskins and Odubel Herrera also went deep for the Phillies.

Verdugo led off the ninth with a walk against closer Seranthony Dominguez (1-3). Pederson followed with a single. After Manny Machado struck out, Muncy walked. Verdugo scored when catcher Jorge Alfaro couldn't catch Dominguez's outside pitch. Dominguez exited after walking Grandal. Matt Kemp greeted Luis Garcia with an RBI single to make it 7-5.

Red Sox 5, Orioles 3

In Baltimore, Rick Porcello scattered six hits over six

scoreless innings, Mitch Moreland homered and Boston beat Baltimore in a rain-delayed matchup between the best and worst teams in the major leagues.

Andrew Benintendi drove in two runs for the AL East-leading Red Sox, who have won 15 of 17 to move 40 games over .500 (71-31) for the first time since 1949.

Porcello (12-4) struck out six and walked one in surpassing his win total of 2017. It was a nice bounce-back performance by the 2016 AL Cy Young Award winner, who allowed eight runs in two innings against Toronto in his last outing.

After Jonathan Schoop hit a two-run homer off Brandon Workman in the eighth, Craig Kimbrel gave up an RBI single to Caleb Joseph in the ninth but earned his 32nd save.

Diamondbacks 7, Cubs 1

In Chicago, Paul Goldschmidt homered and Patrick Corbin pitched seven strong innings to pick up his first win in seven weeks, leading Arizona over Chicago.

A.J. Pollack had two hits and Jeff Mathis added a two-run double as Arizona won for the fourth time in its last five games at Wrigley Field.

Corbin (7-4) gave up just one run and six hits while striking out nine for his first win since June 5. He was 0-2 with a 3.98 ERA in seven starts since.

Goldschmidt's homer was his 22nd on the season. He was 2 for 5 after going 1 for 12 with nine strikeouts in three games since the All-Star break.

Padres 3, Mets 2

In New York, Jacob deGrom's winless streak reached five games as the major league ERA leader was hurt by a pair of errors behind him, and San Diego beat New York in a matchup of teams with the worst records in the National League.

Rookie left-hander Joey Lucchesi (5-5), brought back from the minor leagues, baffled the Mets for the much of the evening with his curve, a combination curveball-changegup at about 80 mph.

Manuel Margot hit a go-ahead triple in a two-run fifth inning after right fielder Jose Bautista dropped Christian Villanueva's fly ball. The Padres made it 3-1 in the sixth when Wil Myers doubled and scored when charging shortstop Amed Rosario let Eric Hosmer's chopper get under his glove and bounce into the outfield.

Braves 12, Marlins 1

In Miami, Freddie Freeman hit his 17th homer and also doubled for Atlanta, which totaled 16 hits to beat Miami.

Freeman is batting .469 with five homers in eight games against Miami this year. The Braves improved to 6-2 versus the Marlins and have outscored them 56-29.

Charlie Culberson had a career-high four hits, including a pair of doubles, and drove in three runs. Dansby Swanson hit his eighth homer.

Sean Newcomb (9-5) overcame a wobbly start to allow one run in six innings and earn his first win since June 16.

Brewers 6, Nationals 1

In Milwaukee, Christian Yelich had a bases-loaded triple and Jhoulys Chacin had another strong start to help Milwaukee beat Washington.

Erik Kratz drove in a pair of runs for the Brewers, who pulled within 2+ games of NL Central-leading Chicago, which lost to Arizona 7-1. Milwaukee won for just the second time in 10 games.

Chacin (9-3) limited Washington to one run and two hits in 5 2/3 innings, a day after the Brewers used Kratz and utility player Hernan Perez in mop-up roles on the mound in an 11-2 drubbing by the Dodgers.

AP
St. Louis Cardinals starting pitcher Daniel Poncedeleon (62) throws against the Cincinnati Reds during the first inning of a baseball game, Monday, July 23, 2018, in Cincinnati.

Chacin struck out a season-high nine batters and didn't issue a walk.

The Nationals scored first when Daniel Murphy lined a home run to right field leading off the second against Chacin.

Athletics 15, Rangers 3

In Arlington, Jonathan Lucroy hit a grand slam off his former battery mate and surging Oakland beat Texas for its 24th win in 31 games.

Stephen Piscotty also went deep against Rangers starter Cole Hamels (5-9), a potential trade target for some contending teams even though he has struggled at home all season.

Oakland right-hander Brett Anderson (2-2) struck out six over six innings.

The A's (58-43) are a season-best 15 games over .500 after the 24-7 stretch since June 16 that is the best in the majors during that span.

Twins 8, Blue Jays 3

In Toronto, Logan Morrison homered and had three RBI, Max Kepler added a two-run blast and Minnesota beat Toronto, snapping a three-game losing streak.

Joe Mauer and Mitch Garver each had three hits and right-hander Adalberto Mejia (1-0) pitched 5 1/3 innings for his first win of the season as the Twins bounced back after being swept at Kansas City over the weekend.

Lourdes Gurriel Jr. hit a solo home run for the Blue Jays. Toronto swept a three-game series from Baltimore over the weekend but couldn't extend its winning streak against the Twins.

The Blue Jays gave right-hander Luis Santos his first career start because right-hander Marco Estrada remains sidelined with a strained left gluteal muscle.

Tigers 5, Royals 4

In Kansas City, Jim Adduci delivered a two-run double in the ninth and scored the go-ahead run on James McCann's double as Detroit to beat Kansas City.

After Adduci's double off Brandon Maurer tied it, Jason Hamel replaced Maurer and gave up a first-pitch RBI double to McCann, his third hit, to put the Tigers ahead.

Maurer (0-4) faced three batters in the ninth and all scored.

Alex Wilson (1-3) picked up the win. Shane Greene gave up a two-out single in the ninth before earning his 20th save in 23 chances.

Nadal sitting pretty atop ATP rankings

PARIS (AP)—Rafael Nadal remains top of the ATP tennis world rankings with the 32-year-old 17-time Grand Slam winner enjoying a comfortable margin over his eternal rival the Swiss Roger Federer.

Serb Novak Djokovic is in 10th position, after turning round from a long slump as a swathe of American tournaments swing into view ahead of the US Open starting late August.

South Africa's Kevin Anderson, runner-up at Wimbledon, comes in at number five, a more forty-five points ahead of sixth placed Grigor Dimitrov of Bulgaria.

The latest ATP standings as of July 23 are as follows: Rafael Nadal (ESP) 9,310 points; Roger Federer (SUI) 7,080; Alexander Zverev (GER) 5,665; Juan Martin Del Potro (ARG) 5,395; Kevin Anderson (RSA) 4,655; Grigor Dimitrov (BUL) 4,610; Marin Cilic (CRO) 3,905; Dominic Thiem (AUT) 3,665; John Isner (USA) 3,490; and

Novak Djokovic (SRB) 3,355.

In related news, the ATP is changing its Challenger Tour, looking to streamline tennis at lower levels and make it easier for players to earn a living.

Starting in 2019, draw sizes will be increased from 32 to 48 at all events in the second rung of the men's tennis. All players will earn prize money and receive hotel accommodations. The ATP estimates an



AP
Rafael Nadal of Spain returns the ball to Serbia's Novak Djokovic during their men's singles semifinals match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships, in London, Saturday July 14, 2018.

additional \$1 million (763,400 pounds) in prize money.

There are more than 160 tournaments worldwide on this year's Challenger Tour. Starting next year, they will be rebranded as ATP Challenger 70, 80, 95, 110 and 125, according to the prize-money levels and ranking points. The highest-level Challengers will offer \$162,480.

In 2020, ATP ranking points will be awarded to champions only at the Challenger Tour level and above. The Futures Tour currently offers points.

Federer focuses on US Open

Meanwhile, Roger Federer withdrew from the Rogers

Cup in Toronto next month in order to be in peak condition for the U.S. Open.

Federer is a two-time champion at the Rogers Cup, which alternates between Toronto and Montreal. He's won twice in Toronto and was runner-up last year in Montreal.

"Unfortunately with scheduling being the key to my lon-

gevity moving forward, I have regrettably decided to withdraw from Toronto this year," Federer said in a statement on Monday. "I... am sorry to miss it."

The Rogers Cup, which starts on Aug. 6, still features 19 of the world's top 20 ranked players.

No. 2-ranked Federer is next scheduled to play the following week in Cincinnati,

where he has won a tournament-record seven times. He missed it last year because of a back injury.

The U.S. Open in New York starts two weeks later.

Federer, due to turn 37 during the Rogers Cup, has played seven tournaments this year and won three. He last appeared at Wimbledon, and lost in the quarterfinals.



LOS ANGELES (AP)—Michael Beasley thinks the basketball world is foolish to assume the Los Angeles Lakers' revamped locker room will be combustible before the fuse is even lit.

The Lakers announced their signing of Beasley to a one-year contract Monday, adding the versatile forward to their new core of veterans around LeBron James.

Beasley, Rajon Rondo, Lance Stephenson and JaVale McGee have all joined Los Angeles this month in a slate of provocative offseason signings to supplement its talented youngsters and James, who started the parade to the West Coast when he left Cleveland for the 16-time NBA champions in free agency.

All four of these well-known, well-traveled veterans around James have varying degrees of colorful histories in their previous NBA stops, prompting widespread speculation in the media and around the league about how coach Luke Walton will manage his roster. They've already attract-

Beasley: New Lakers vets can form solid core around LeBron

ed an immediate online nickname -- "The Meme Team" -- while other pundits have compared them to a basketball Suicide Squad, referring to the recent DC Comics film about a misfit team of antiheroes.

Beasley thinks the entire discussion is summertime NBA nonsense.

"For there to even be a narrative (about problems with) personalities in this room is judgment enough for me, and I just don't want to be a part of it," Beasley said.

Heading into his 11th NBA season with his seventh franchise, Beasley knows something about locker room chemistry and the importance of professionalism. He was James' teammate with the Miami Heat during the 2013-14 season, when they reached the NBA Finals, and he already has friendships with Rondo, Stephenson and McGee.

Beasley hasn't become the superstar many expected when he was the No. 2 pick by Miami in the 2008 draft, but he has fashioned a solid NBA career. He said he couldn't

have lasted this long in the league if he didn't get along with his teammates, listen to coaches and work toward team goals—and he feels the same about Rondo, Stephenson and McGee, who have all had enduring careers.

"Anybody (who) starts judging a lot of players, me mainly, doesn't figure out that guys like me and Nick Young and J.R. Smith and Lance Stephenson and guys like that actually know how to play basketball, actually know how to win basketball games and actually know how to get along with others," Beasley said. "It's nothing to do with my maturity. It's the total opposite."

Beasley demonstrated that mature mentality when asked about his expectations and goals with the Lakers, who will have to put in plenty of preseason work figuring out how to play with each other.

"I'm not really here to beat anybody out of minutes, or play more than this guy," Beasley said. "I'm here to play a team game and do as much winning as I can."

Beasley averaged 13.2 points, 5.6 rebounds and 1.7 assists per game last year in a productive season with the New York Knicks, his sixth NBA franchise in 10 years in the league.

Beasley's 6-foot-9 ranginess and versatility fit the stated desire of Lakers president of basketball operations Magic Johnson for multi-positional, ball-handling veterans eager to play hard-nosed defense, rather than the role players and pure perimeter shooters who occupied much of the Cavaliers' roster in recent years.

Even getting a phone call from Johnson was a thrill for Beasley, who idolizes the former Lakers point guard.

"I mean, showtime. That's Magic, you know?" Beasley said. "A guy I dreamed of meeting my whole life. So the chance to play for him, it's surreal. ... I was trying to keep my emotions professional, (but) I had to put the phone on mute once or twice."

Johnson provided Beasley with a detailed description of his likely role with the Lak-

ers. Beasley also is willing to be a vocal leader to the Lakers' gifted young players, including Brandon Ingram, Kyle Kuzma, Lonzo Ball and Josh Hart.

Howards aims to finish career with Wizards

Dwight Howard brought the charm to his introductory news conference with the Wizards on Monday. The eight-time All-Star has lots of experience in such situations. The center now playing for his fourth team in four seasons said Washington would be his last stop.

The three-time defensive player of the year is joining a Wizards team that includes All-Star guards John Wall and Bradley Beal, but he is coming off a frustrating season that ended with a first-round playoff loss to the Raptors.

Frustration is nothing new to the 6-foot-11 Howard. He's gone from taking the Magic to the 2009 NBA Finals to joining six teams since leaving Orlando in 2012.

Washington and Howard agreed this month to a two-year, \$11 million contract with

a player option for the 2019-20 season.

Howard became available after the Nets bought out his contract following a trade with the Hornets this offseason for a return of Timofey Mozgov's contract and a pair of second-round picks. Howard averaged 16.6 points and 12.3 rebounds last season for Charlotte, averaging a double-double during each of his 14 NBA seasons.

The move came one year after the Hawks foisted Howard's contract on the Hornets in a similarly structured trade, which followed three uninspiring seasons with the Rockets and a tumultuous campaign with Kobe Bryant and the Lakers.

"Actually, I was joking with one of my trainers earlier today," Howard said Monday at Capital One Arena. "I thought it would be fitting. We were talking about how I started with the Magic, learned Magic for eight years. Traveled to La-La land. Learned how to work the Rockets. Went to learn how to fly with some Hawks. Got stung by the Hornets. Throughout all of that, it taught me how to be a Wizard."

Furyk not ready to take Woods for Ryder Cup

CARNOUSTIE, Scotland (AP)—Ryder Cup captain Jim Furyk says it was fun to watch Tiger Woods contend at the British Open and briefly take the lead in the final round. Whether that means Woods is a lock for the U.S. team is still to be determined.

"I'm going to handle him the way I do everyone else," Furyk said Monday before boarding a flight for the Canadian Open. "I'll ask my top eight guys. The way he's playing, he might be one of them. I'll ask the vice captains, collectively, and I think we'll do the best we can to round out the team. We want the guys playing the best."

Woods moved from No. 31 to No. 20 in the Ryder Cup standings with two tournaments remaining before the top eight qualify for the Sept. 28-30 matches in Paris. Points are based on money, and the two events left for Woods—a World Golf Championship and PGA Championship—offer two of the largest purses.

Woods already has been appointed an assistant captain, just as he was at Hazeltine two years ago. He has hinted at being a playing assistant.

He has played just 12 events that offer Ryder Cup points, about half as many tournaments as most American prospects.



AP
Francesco Molinari of Italy, right, and Tiger Woods of the US shake hands on the 18th hole after the final round for the 147th British Open Golf championships in Carnoustie, Scotland, Sunday, July 22, 2018.

Woods had the lead for three holes at Carnoustie until a double bogey at No. 11, and he wound up tied for sixth. It at least moved him to No. 50 in the world ranking, making him eligible for the \$10 million Bridgestone Invitational next week at Firestone, where he has



won eight times.

Furyk looked at more than just Woods.

Over the weekend at Carnoustie, no fewer than seven players had a chance to move into the top eight in the standings—Woods, Xander Schauffele, Kevin Kisner, Kevin Chappell, Tony

Finau, Zach Johnson and Matt Kuchar.

"We had a lot of guys in pretty good form," Furyk said.

SEMIS

From Page 28

after drawing a bye in the first round, while the CNMI's Sean Lee and Sam Ryu will vie for one of the two remaining semis berths. Ryu and Lee will face Norfolk Island's Sam Cribb and Tuvalu's Maka Ofati today, while the battle for the other semis ticket will feature the Solomon Islands pair of Junior Micky and Joel Riju against the Vanuatu duo of Clement Main-guy and Warea Tigona.

In the girls U16 division, Conatsu Kaga and Malika Miyawaki swept Samoa's Chrystal Christman and Luisa Tuasi'i, 6-4, 6-1, to advance to the semis against No. 1 Lea Lamorelle of Tahiti and Samoa's Eleanor Schuster.

The CNMI's other bet in the division—Maria Gregoire—teamed up with the Federated State of Micronesia's Anne Skilling and they will challenge Fiji's Kajol Chand and Vanuatu's Desiree Signo today for the third semis slot. The winner of today's match will march against No. 2 seed Saoirse Breen of Fiji and Vanuatu's Rosalie Molbaleh.

In the girls U14 doubles, the Commonwealth's Conatsu Kaga partnered with FSM's

"Flip over to Tiger, you look at him because he's Tiger, and he's earned a lot of attention. ... I loved seeing him play

well. I loved seeing him jump to 20th. It's fun to watch. But we'll handle him like everyone else."

Ridianne Wolphagen in beating Guam's Kaia Malakooti and Palau's Ngelittle Silmai, 6-2, 6-2, to make it to the semifinals against the Tahiti pair of Vaiani Dusserre-Valleaux and Chrissy Vonge. The Tahiti duo won over Vanuatu's Naomi Sipiti and Norfolk Island's Hannah Wright, 6-2, 7-5.

In the boys U14, Seung Jin Paik and Jimin Wook took only two sets to down FSM's Deavyn Etscheit and Jones George, 6-0, 6-3, and move into the semifinals against New Caledonia's Tiago Lopes and Terence Winter. The New Caledonia players notched the second semis ticket at the lower half of the draw after eliminating Tahiti's Aritea Cotti-Helme and Meheannu Larson, 6-2, 6-1.

At the upper half of the draw, it will be Storm Cornish of Fiji and the Solomon Islands' Lachlan Guba against Vanuatu's Noah Molbaleh and Zachary Sands. Cornish and Guba stunned No. 1 seed Manovai Elie and Haunui Montas of Tahiti, 6-1, 0-6, 10-8, while the Vanuatu duo ousted Guam's Dakota Gibson and FSM's Nolen Narruhn, 6-2, 6-3.

More wins in singles

Meanwhile, the CNMI Junior National Team bounced back from a slow start in the singles, as more players bagged victories on Day 2 of the

competition.

Woo won his first game in the boys U14 singles after defeating Etscheit, 6-0, 6-1, while Coume went 2-0 in the girls play and may likely advance to the playoffs following a 6-3, 6-4 triumph over Malakooti. The Top 2 players from the four pools in both the girls and boys U14 singles will move into the playoff round.

In the U16 singles, Schorr eased past Warren, 6-0, 6-0, and will go for a sweep in Group C when he takes on Micky today. In Group D, Song recovered from his opening day loss after topping Cribb, 6-1, 6-0. Song must win over the Solomon Islands' Joel Riju to move into the quarterfinals.

In the girls U16 singles, Miyawaki clobbered Tuasi'i last Monday, 6-0, 6-0, and will play her second and last game in Group B today against Breen. With Tuasil' also bowing to Breen yesterday, Miyawaki is already assured of a playoff spot regardless of the results of her game against the former.

Conatsu also has a good chance of moving forward in the girls U16 singles after bouncing back from her opening day loss with a 6-0, 6-0 triumph over Chand yesterday. Conatsu's entry to the quarterfinals will be formalized with Lamorelle's win over Chand today.

CNMI

From Page 28

Other new records set were in men's and women's 15,000m, and men's 200m run, men's high jump, and women's discus throw and shot put.

CNMI vs Pohnpei for baseball gold

The stage has been set for the CNMI and Pohnpei finals showdown.

Pohnpei advanced to the gold medal game after prevailing against Kosrae in a knockout match yesterday, 9-0. The CNMI-Pohnpei finals duel will be played today, starting at 3pm (same time on Saipan).

The Commonwealth bets are favored in the gold medal match, as they have yet to lose in the tournament, winning all four games in the elimination and beating Kosrae in the semis, 13-1. However, the Patrick Tenorio-managed squad must not take its opponents lightly, as it defeated Pohnpei by only two points in the preliminary round, 7-5.

Weightlifting competitors named

Entries in the weightlifting competition have been grouped and schedule was re-



HIROYUKI MORI
CNMI players exchange high-fives after winning one of their games in the preliminary round of the baseball competition in the 9th Micronesian Games in Yap last week. The CNMI will face Pohnpei in the gold medal game today.

leased yesterday.

In the 85-kg division, Joe Tudela will be up against the Marshall Islands' Kabuati Silas Bob and Pohnpei's Andran Dolon. In the 94-kg class, Rodrigo Ada will face Pohnpei's Dorian Peter and the Marshall Islands' Sione Aho. In the 105kg, Pacific Mini Games bronze medalist Angel San Nicolas will challenge Yap's Alvin Ruuemaui, the Marshall Islands' Ronald Jinuna, and Pohnpei's Burton Charley.

In the women's division, Antonette Labause is entered in the 90-kg class, while Bonnie Cruz will compete in the 90+kg.

Meanwhile, with the medal-rich athletics event done last week and weightlifting moving the competition proper to today (instead of yesterday), not much has changed in the medal standings.

Guam, after winning the gold medal in the women's basketball following its 62-38 victory over the Marshall Is-

lands, stays on top with a 26-12-12 gold-silver-bronze tally. Palau got the bronze after edging Pohnpei, 59-57.

In the men's basketball finals, Guam was playing the Marshall Islands, too, as of press time, while Pohnpei prevailed in the bronze medal match against Palau, 72-66.

Palau with its bronze in women's basketball now has a 25-9-12 tally for second place, while Pohnpei is at distant third with its 10-21-14 haul.

TEEN

From Page 28

and the boys discussed their strong points during the game and things they need to improve on for the next game. They are very happy that they won their first game. It is very good for their morale now that they are focusing on the 'giants' from our group—China and Japan," the team manager said.

Rintaro Miyawaki lifted the Teen Ayuyus to victory in their first game after scoring in the first half. He started for the squad along with goalie Jonathan Mindanao, Floyd Muna, Brandon Tenorio, Taka Borja, Oliver Fajardo, Brian Lubao, Razeft Altamirano, Elijah Villarmero, Rinto Takahashi, and Ian Maniago. Merrick Toves, John Martin Palad, John Ezekiel Canape, Reginald Pascual, Daniel Pablo, and Jon Vilagomez were the substitutes.

"We started out the first half with majority of the possession. We created many scoring opportunities, but our finishing quality was not good enough. With our persistence, Rintaro Miyawaki was able to

find the back of the net," Vargas said.

Ahead by only one, the Teen Ayuyus tried to gain more cushion, but Macau stepped up on defense, making life more difficult for the former.

"During the second half of the game, Macau pressured and fought back quite hard. Our fitness suffered as well and because of this, Macau created many scoring opportunities, but fortunately for us, they could not capitalize. We had a few good attempts where we penetrated, but again our finishing was poor. We were also awarded a penalty kick but the shot was not on target," the team manager added.

After hanging on to the lead and keeping the win, head coach Michiteru Mita gave props to the team.

"Coach Mita believes that the team worked very hard to prepare for this tournament and all their effort during their training sessions back home paid off and helped them during the game. The boys took their opponents very seriously and because of this we got results," Vargas said.

Team Marianas at Micronesian Games

PHOTOS By HIROYUKI MORI



Anthony Camacho-Deleon Guerrero, right, talks to a CNMI sports official while waiting for the start of the 2.5-kilometer ocean swim.



The CNMI's Kelvin Fitial drives against Pohnpei players during a basketball match in the 9th Micronesian Games in Yap last week.

CNMI players huddle on the mound before playing against Pohnpei.

Roy Celis delivers a pitch during their game against Pohnpei.



Jinnosuke Suzuki, left, and Kento Akimaru chat while cooling down after the 5-kilometer ocean swim.



Orrin Pharmin does the high jump part of the octathlon event.



Sophia Gauran, right, and Jinnosuke Suzuki, partly hidden, cool down after the 5-kilometer race.



CNMI athletes join the opening parade.



Poncedeleon
dazzles in debut
but Reds rally
past Cards

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports

Nadal sitting
pretty atop
ATP rankings

PAGE 25



28 WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 2018

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CNMI relay team breaks record

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The quartet of Zarinae Sapong, Therize Millare, Jerlyn Castillo, and Eleina Santos shattered the Micronesian Games record in the 4x400m relay.

The CNMI runners clocked in at 4:24.43 in the 4x400m relay event in the 9th Micronesian Games in Yap last Thursday to surpass the mark (4:24.94) made by fellow Commonwealth sprinters Yvonne and Yvette Bennett, Jacque Wonenberg, and Lia Rangamar in the 2010 edition of the quadrennial competition held in Palau. The record-breaking run handed the CNMI relay team a bronze medal in the event. Guam took gold, while Pohnpei earned the silver after timing in at 4:19.18 and 4:24.43, respectively. Guam's mark posted by Shania Bulala, Madison Packbier, Richelle Tugade,



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Standing from left, Zarinae Sapong, Jerlyn Castillo, Therize Millare, and Eleina Santos pose for a photo with fellow athletes Leani Acosta, kneeling left, and Jamie Pangelinan after a record-breaking run in the 4x400m relay event in the 9th Micronesian Games in Yap last week.

and Celine Amparo, is now the new Micro Games record.

Guam also set the new record in the 4x100m relay, as the same quartet timed in at 50.49 seconds en route to getting the gold medal in the event. The previous record



was 52.23 seconds (Oceania Athletics Association did not list down the names of the old record holders).

Besides the relay, records in eight individual events were also broken, including two that Yvonne established during the 2010 Micronesian Games.

Guam's Regine Kate

Tugade timed in at 12.47 seconds in the qualifying heat and 12.38 seconds in the finals to beat the 12.68 seconds Yvonne posted on Aug. 4, 2010. Tugade then did the same in the 400m run with her 1:01.05 in the finals eclipsing the 1:01.30 Yvonne recorded on Aug. 6, 2010.

See CNMI on Page 26

Semis rush for jr. tennis players

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Junior Tennis Team has semis entries in all four doubles events in the 2018 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships.

In the boys U16 age group, the tried and tested pair Robbie Schorr and Ken

Song took the second semis seat after dominating Tahiti's Phillip Warren and Guam's Marshall Zhang, 6-0, 6-0, yesterday in Fiji.

Schorr and Song will meet in the semis the No. 1 seed Jeremy Guinness and Mohearii Polin of Tahiti, who got the first Final Four ticket

See SEMIS on Page 26



OCEANIA TENNIS PHOTO

Robbie Schorr checks on his opponent's move during a tournament Fiji last month. He is still in Fiji playing in the 2018 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships.

MICRO GAMES 2018 MORE THAN JUST GAMES				
MEDAL TALLY As of 7pm July 24, 2018				
	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Guam	26	12	12	50
Palau	25	9	12	46
Pohnpei	10	21	14	45
Yap	5	7	13	25
Chuuk	4	1	3	8
CNMI	3	10	7	20
RMI	3	10	3	16
Kiribati	2	2	1	5
Nauru	2	2	1	5
Kosrae	0	4	6	10

EXPLORE YOUR WORLD



Teen Ayuyus brace for game vs heavily favored Japan

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The CNMI U15 Boys National Team had a break yesterday—a needed one as it will challenge the might Japanese squad today in the continuation of the East Asian Football Federation U15 Boys Tournament in Xianghe, China.

The Teen Ayuyus, who came off a 1-0 victory over Macau in their opening match last Monday, were set to duel China in their second game yesterday, but the match was rescheduled to tomorrow due to rain.

“Today (yesterday), an emergency meeting was called and unfortunately, the Chinese government issued the postponement of

all outdoor activities due to the heavy rains. Today's match against China has been moved to July 26 and this will give the boys another day to

recover before we face our group's strongest team—Japan,” team manager Mikky Vargas said.

Vargas added that after the

win over Macau, the players and officials met to assess their first game.

“The team had a meeting

See TEEN on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CNMI players are all smiles after Rintaro Miyawaki, second left, scored in their game against Macau in the East Asian Football Federation U15 Boys Tournament in Xianghe, China last Monday.